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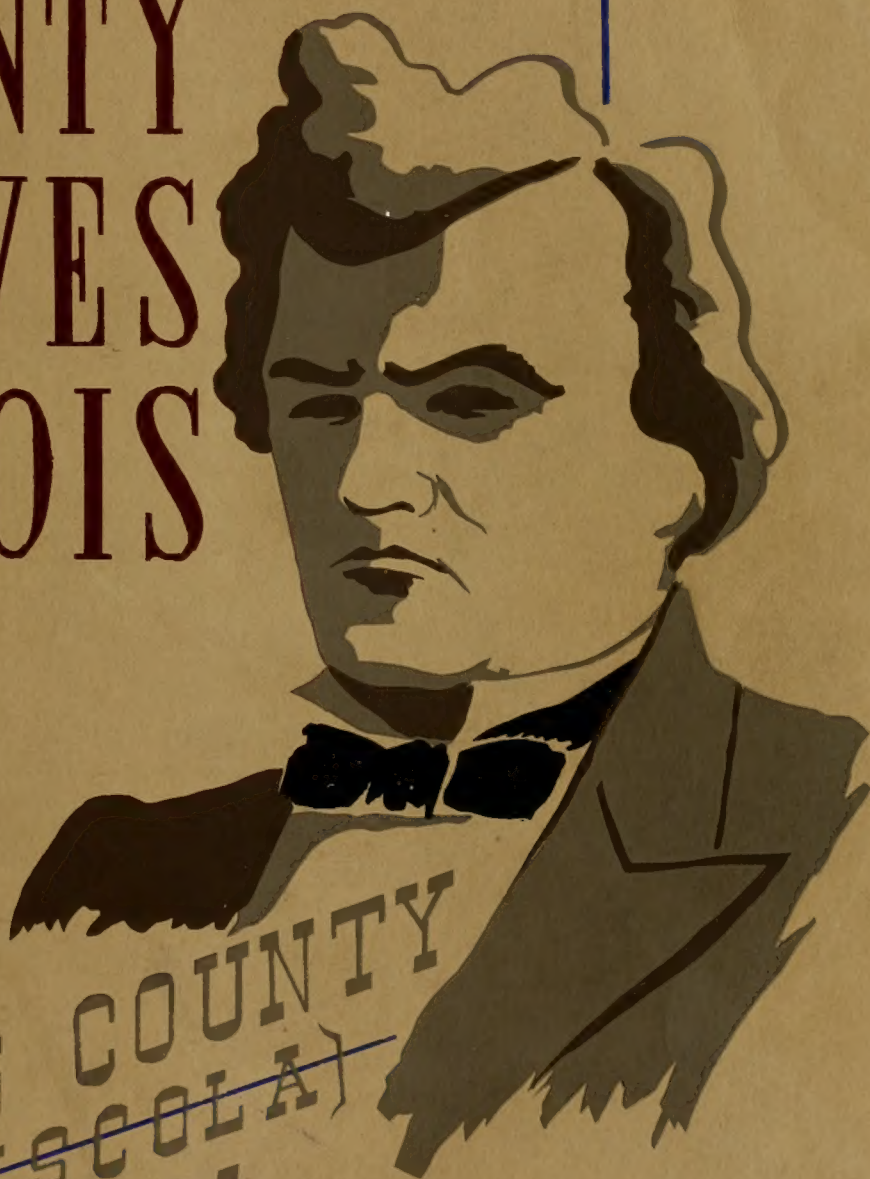


ILLINOIS HISTORICAL SURVEY

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INVENTORY OF THE COUNTY ARCHIVES OF ILLINOIS



DOUGLAS COUNTY
(TUSCOLA)
NO. 21

HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY
CHICAGO *** ILLINOIS

INVENTORY OF THE COUNTY ARCHIVES
OF ILLINOIS

Prepared by

The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project
Division of Professional and Service Projects
Work Projects Administration

No. 21. DOUGLAS COUNTY (TUSCOLA)

* * * * *

Chicago, Illinois
The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project
November 1939

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The Historical Records Survey Program

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FOREWORD

The Inventory of the County Archives of Illinois is one of a number of bibliographies of historical material prepared throughout the United States by workers on The Historical Records Survey Program of the Work Projects Administration. The publication herewith presented, an inventory of the archives of Douglas County, is number 21 of the Illinois series.

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The Historical Records Survey Program was undertaken in the winter of 1935-36 for the purpose of providing useful employment to needy unemployed historians, lawyers, teachers, and research and clerical workers. In carrying out this objective, the project was organized to compile inventories of historical materials, particularly the unpublished government documents and records which are basic in the administration of local government, and which provide invaluable data for students of political, economic, and social history. The archival guide herewith presented is intended to meet the requirements of day-to-day administration by the officials of the county, and also the needs of lawyers, business men, and other citizens who require facts from the public records for the proper conduct of their affairs. The volume is so designed that it can be used by the historian in his research in unprinted sources in the same way he uses the library card catalog for printed sources.

The inventories produced by The Historical Records Survey Program attempt to do more than give merely a list of records - they attempt further to sketch in the historical background of the county or other unit of government, and to describe precisely and in detail the organization and functions of the government agencies whose records they list. The county, town, and other local inventories for the entire country will, when completed, constitute an encyclopedia of local government as well as a bibliography of local archives.

The successful conclusion of the work of The Historical Records Survey Program, even in a single county, would not be possible without the support of public officials, historical and legal specialists, and many other groups in the community. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

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The Survey Program was organized and has been directed by Luther H. Evans, and operates as a nation-wide series of locally sponsored projects in the Division of Professional and Service Projects, of which Florence Kerr, Assistant Commissioner, is in charge.

F. C. Harrington
Commissioner

PREFACE

The Historical Records Survey Program was initiated as a nation-wide undertaking in January, 1936, as part of the Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration, now the Work Projects Administration. In Illinois the Survey became an independent unit in August, 1936, but continued to operate as a part of the nation-wide project under the technical supervision of Dr. Luther H. Evans, National Director, and under the administrative supervision of the Division of Professional and Service Projects. Alston G. Field and Howard E. Colgan were the first two state directors, the former serving until November 1, 1937, and the latter to May 16, 1939. On September 1, 1939, the Illinois State Library, of which Secretary of State Edward J. Hughes is State Librarian and Helene H. Rogers, Superintendent of State Library Divisions, assumed the sponsorship of The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project.

In compiling this inventory of the archives of Douglas County, the Survey has sought to locate, describe, and classify all extant county records and to make them more easily accessible to county officials, the general public, and research workers. It is believed that this Inventory will be useful in the preservation of this valuable material, and as a guide to the archives wherein may be found so much important information in the field of history, sociology, political science, and economics. While some historians have realized this for many years, the general public has never been made aware of the intrinsic worth of this material. In the official documents of Douglas County are found the materials of another chapter in the story of the coming into the Illinois wilderness of settlers who created a territory and the rudiments of a simple frontier government, bought and sold land, built roads, established schools, and later founded a state.

The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project has proved to be of considerable assistance to local and county governments. Records have been rearranged and made more accessible, material believed to be lost has been located, indexing projects have been fostered, and county officials have been encouraged and induced to provide new equipment for their offices and better storage space for the records.

In addition, the program of the Project has been planned to dovetail with the long-range plans of the State of Illinois for the care of state and local archives. For example, the first step, the removal of all state records to a new Archives Building, has been materially aided by the preparation of preliminary inventories by survey workers for the various state departments. Furthermore, the program of the State for the preservation of county records, including the making of microphotographic copies of all important historical documents, obviously presupposes inventories such as The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project is now making.

The inventories being compiled by The Historical Records Survey Program also make possible for the first time a scientific study of the

question of record destruction. Under Illinois law no records may be destroyed without specific enabling legislation. This provision, together with the tremendous increase in the quantity of records in recent years, has made it impossible for either the state or the counties to take care of the documents adequately. Hence, a certain amount of record destruction has been inevitable. If, as seems probable, a study of these inventories should lead to the enactment of adequate and sensible legislation governing the disposition of public records, these compilations may prove to be the most important contribution of the Survey.

Preliminary work on the survey of records in Douglas County, the twenty-first county on the alphabetically arranged list of the one hundred and two counties in Illinois, was begun under the supervision of Kenneth C. Blood on July 15, 1936, and finished as far as possible August 15, 1936. Inventory forms were received March 24, 1937, and on July 7, a tentative draft inventory was submitted to the national director, which was returned for revision October 13, 1937. A check on three offices was made between February 3 and 15, 1938, and on September 16, all inventory forms were returned to the field supervisor for a complete recheck; these were returned to the state office January 12, 1939. Included in the field work accomplished during this period were the transcriptions of county board records, upon which the historical sketch in this Inventory is largely based. Field workers at the beginning of the inventory were David McKinney, Everett Woodworth, Sidney M. Cool, and Otto P. Dahman; Oliver K. Doney, Byford E. Floro, and Paul E. Doty did the rechecking, and the transcribing of county board records was done by Doney.

The Inventory was prepared for publication by the state editorial staff of The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project at Chicago, under the supervision of Herbert R. Rifkind. Preparation of part B of the Inventory was under the direction of Martine O'Connor; Irving E. Barnett supervised the preparation of the legal essays; the historical sketch was written by Gifford Ernest; and the format was prepared and collated by Edward J. McDonough. In addition, too much credit cannot be given to the other members of the editorial, research, and typing staffs for their intelligent and diligent cooperation in the compilation of this Inventory.

All of the officers of Douglas County cooperated in every possible way with the workers, and grateful acknowledgment of their aid is hereby made. I also wish to express appreciation for the assistance rendered by the officials of the Illinois Work Projects Administration and the Illinois Writers' Project. For the cover design we are indebted to the Illinois Art Project.

The various units of the Inventory of the County Archives of Illinois will be available for distribution to governmental offices, libraries, schools, and historical societies in Illinois, and libraries and governmental agencies in other states. Requests for information concerning particular units of the Inventory should be addressed to the State Supervisor.

Royal S. Van de Woestyne
Royal S. Van de Woestyne
State Supervisor
The Illinois Historical Records
Survey Project

November 10, 1939

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1. HISTORICAL SKETCH

When the English broke the power of the French over the Great West in the New World the territory of what is now Douglas County, Illinois, was a "howling wilderness" in practically an unknown land to the victor in the French and Indian War. This generally low and relatively flat tract of the Grand Prairie was overlooked by the explorers, adventurers, and early settlers because it was off the beaten trails and water routes followed by the Indians. Its location and physiography caused this fertile section to be classed as marginal lands of that day. It was considered unfit for cultivation, and in the first quarter of the nineteenth century it was still unsold by the Federal government. It was, therefore, late in being settled, and later still in asserting its independence as a county unit of the commonwealth government.

Until the date of its organization as Douglas County, the area was known to geography by other titles. It had been the possession of three sovereign powers, and, as all the Illinois country, knew allegiance to three flags from the time it became a part of New France through discovery and exploration by French missionaries to the Indians, and by titled adventurers bent on adding new lands to the expanding French domain beyond the seas.

The county lies well in the east central part of the state and embraces 417 square miles which comprise an area of approximately 266,880 acres.¹ The area thus just met the constitutional requirement for size by being not less than 400 square miles.²

The outlines of the county are regular except in the southeast, where setbacks or jogs in the angle of the otherwise rectangular shape of the county cut off approximately fifteen square miles of land, leaving approximately 9,600 acres in Coles County to accomodate citizens who preferred not to become a part of Douglas County when it separated from Coles. The lines of both the eastern and western boundaries show the peculiarities of the government survey of public lands. They have jogs, or "correctional lines" in the meridian-parallels, which show the errors due to the convergence of meridians owing to the shape of the earth. These jogs are known to surveyors as "fallings," i.e., falling to the

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1. Illinois, Number and Distribution of Inhabitants, Population Bulletin, First Series (Washington: Bureau of the Census, 1930), p. 8. Hereafter cited as Population Bulletin, Illinois, U. S. Census 1930. Other sources give the area of the county variously, such as 409 and 410 square miles.
 2. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, Sec. 1.

Historical Sketch

right or left of the true meridians, used in running the north and south lines from parallels intersecting the true meridians. There are other irregularities in the boundaries of the county due to inaccuracies and practical limitations of the system of government surveys. Such irregularities and inaccuracies probably account for the disparity between the various areas of the county that have been recorded. Many contradictions between the record and actual measurement are to be found.¹

The county lies below the fortieth parallel of latitude and between 87° 55' and 88° 30' longitude west. Tuscola, the county seat, is in latitude 39° 45' north. On the east the county is bounded by Edgar, on the north by Champaign, on the west by Piatt and Moultrie, and on the south by Coles counties.

The Grand Prairie, which is the general name for the prairie country lying between the waters that flow into the Mississippi and those which flow into the Wabash rivers, does not consist of one vast tract, boundless to the vision, but is made up of continuous tracts, with points of timber projecting inward from the rivers and smaller streams, and long arms of the prairie extending between the creeks and other streams tributary to the rivers carrying the main body of drainage of the Grand Prairie. This prairie, the boundaries of which are more or less indefinite, extends from the northeastern part of Jackson County in a northeasterly course through Perry, Washington, Jefferson, Marion, the eastern part of Fayette and Effingham, the western part of Coles, through Douglas into Champaign and Iroquois counties where it becomes connected with the prairies that project eastward from the Illinois River and its tributaries.²

The relative flatness of Douglas County is indicated by the elevation of the towns distributed over the area. Arcola toward the south and west of the center is the highest elevation, being 680 feet above sea level. The lowest is Camargo, being 637 feet in elevation. Arthur is 658 feet, Hindsboro, 651; Tuscola, 649, and Newman, 640. Water on such a comparatively level stretch of prairie land does not easily form drainage routes to lower levels and, therefore, forms swamps by overflowing areas of the county. This was a characteristic feature of the physiography of the county until these areas were drained by dredge ditches and tile in the latter part of the nineteenth century.

The county lies on the divide between the hydrographic basins of the Wabash and Kaskaskia rivers, sending its surface drainage through the Embarrass to the Wabash and through the Okaw to the Kaskaskia. The

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1. J. A. Battle and Henry C. Niles, County of Douglas, Illinois (Chicago: F. A. Battey & Company, 1884), Part III, p. 12, 13, 15. Hereafter cited as County of Douglas.
 2. John Mason Peck, A Gazetteer of Illinois (Philadelphia: Griggs and Elliott, 1837), p. 211.

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Embarrass, popularly pronounced "Ambraw," a corruption of the French pronunciation, has its source in Champaign County to the north; it flows through Douglas County just east of the center and meanders some ninety miles before it reaches the Wabash in Lawrence County. The river is said to have received its name from the embarrassment which the French settlers at Vincennes (Indiana) felt when they explored the territory drained by the tributary to the Wabash and found the marsh land a hindrance to their travel.¹ The river was called Fox in the early government survey, but the French name seems to have outlived this one.

The Kaskaskia River rises likewise in Champaign County and is locally called "Okaw." It flows in nearly a direct southerly route passing through the western townships of Garrett and Bourbon. Three hundred miles further on, after passing through seven more counties, it empties into the Mississippi River in Randolph County. The regular tributaries to the Embarrass and the Kaskaskia are few, the Embarrass receiving the larger number including Brushy Fork from the northeast, Deer Creek, a prairie stream flowing nearly direct east into the main stream, and Scattering Fork, a tributary which divides into three branches. The tributaries to the Kaskaskia are all on the west side of the river in Douglas County and have a southeasterly course. These are Dry Fork, Lake Fork, and Big Slough.

The Douglas County region had its physical beginnings, of course, in geologic time, the measure of which for purposes of geologic history, is given in eras, periods, and epochs. In the Quaternary period of the Cenozoic Age, which is the age of mammals, was the Glacial Epoch. It was during this epoch that large areas of the earth's surface were subjected to an extremely cold climate, as the result of which great ice sheets were formed. These ice sheets moved southward from centers of accumulation in Laborador, in the Hudson Bay region, and in the northern Rocky Mountains. Six ice sheets or glacier movements are generally regarded to have taken place, each of which covered part of northern United States. Some parts of the country were not covered during each advance. Two have been designated as having covered the area that now constitutes Douglas County. They were the Illinoisian and Early Wisconsin.²

The soil is of glacial origin; the glacial debris, known as till or drift, was deposited by the Illinoisian ice sheet. This was buried by the debris deposited by the more recent Early Wisconsin ice sheet. Although the Illinoisian drift does not enter into the actual composition of the soils of the county, yet the Illinoisian glaciation probably had an important effect on the agricultural value of the soils of

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1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 16.
 2. R. S. Smith and Others, Soil Report No. 43, Douglas County (Urbana: University of Illinois, 1929), p. 3. Hereafter cited as Soil Report.

Historical Sketch

this section, in that it acted as a leveling force, rubbing down the preglacial hills and filling the preglacial valleys.¹ The relative flatness of the country is relieved only by the morainal ridges in the northeastern and southeastern parts of the county along narrow belts adjacent to the Embarrass and Kaskaskia rivers and their tributaries.²

The soil material was reworked by the action of wind and water since the retreat of the last ice sheet. On the higher ridges of the steeper slopes, erosion has removed the finer soil material nearly as rapidly as it has formed and has deposited much of it on the low-lying, nearly level areas. This action has resulted in the formation of youthful soils with little of the development that characterizes older soils where relatively large amounts of organic matter, such as grass vegetation, have accumulated, and formed productive, dark-colored soils.³ The soil adjacent to streams, which has been timbered, is light-colored because of the relative deficiency of the surface soil in organic matter. The bottom lands are of alluvial material brought down from the uplands of the immediate vicinity; it is young and relatively immature.⁴

There are four soil groups in the county: Upland Prairie, Upland Timber, Terrace or Bench-land, and Swamp and Bottom-land soils. By far the greatest portion of the county consists of the Upland Prairie soil, and the smallest of Terrace soils. In the former classification is 87.24 percent, and in the latter .01 percent of the land area. In the Upland Timber group is 9.86 percent, and in the Swamp and Bottom-land group, 2.89 percent.⁵ The soil on the whole is characteristic of the prairie lands throughout the central portion of the state; it is mainly a deep, black, vegetable mold. Boulders are rarely found of any great size in the county, and in many parts are unknown. A few of large size, weighing 500 pounds, are found in some sections.

Water of fair quality is generally obtained at a depth of from 20 to 30 feet. In Camargo Township is a fountain of living water, known as "Patterson's Spring"; similar ones are located near the Kaskaskia River and the Scattering Fork, a tributary of the Embarrass River. As late as 1879 there was scarcely an acre of land in the county that did not require draining.⁶ The average annual rainfall as recorded for the region at Urbana for a period of twenty-four years, 1903 to 1927, was 34.5 inches. The average rainfall by months for the period was as follows: January, 2.11 inches; February, 1.82; March, 3.36; April, 3.77;

1. Smith and Others, Soil Report, p. 3.

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid., p. 4,5.

4. Ibid., p. 5.

5. Ibid.

6. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 17,20.

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May, 3.80; June, 3.21; July, 2.89; August, 3.57; September, 3.18; October, 2.56; November, 2.13; and December, 2.11.¹ The rainfall is considered well distributed and abundant.

The climate of Douglas County is typical of that of central Illinois. There is a wide range between the extremes of the winter and summer seasons. The present range in temperature as recorded at the Urbana Weather Bureau station for any one year during a period of twenty-four years was 122° F. in 1905 and again in 1918. The highest temperature recorded was 103° F. in 1913; the lowest was 25° below zero in 1905. The average date of the last killing frost is April 26; the earliest in the fall, October 16. The average length of the growing season is 173 days.²

The Coal Measures which underlie nearby counties are not reached in Douglas County at a depth that would make their commercial development profitable. It is probable that any heavy bed of coal would not be found at a depth of less than 600 or 800 feet from the surface. The extent to which the coals of the Carbondale formation of the Pennsylvania system of strata, that were formed in the Carboniferous period of the Paleozoic Era, were deposited in Douglas County has not been determined. Neither is it known whether there was any considerable deposit of good quality from the McLeansboro formation in the county. Thus was determined by geologic forces eons ago that the natural resources of the territory of this county were to be almost completely agricultural, because the prime essential of good, cheap coal, constant water power, and an abundance of timber were lacking in quantities adequate for manufacturing purposes.³

The streams of the county are all fringed with growths of timber, which include the usual varieties of this latitude, such as white, black, Spanish, and red oak; shellbark and white hickory; sugar and white maple; white and red (slippery) elm; black and honey locust; white and black walnut; swamp and upland ash; sycamore, cottonwood, mulberry, and wild cherry all grow along the streams. Since the land has been under cultivation considerable timber has been added by the cultivation of forest trees on the prairie, and numerous groves have been grown throughout the county. The soil is richly productive and through the use of scientific farming methods and the practice of the laws of agronomy, Douglas County has become an important area in the agricultural industry of Illinois.

1. Smith and Others, Soil Report, p. 2.

2. Ibid.

3. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 16,17,21.

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In the early days of settlement the region of which the county was a part, was a hunter's paradise. The wild prairie and the timber were thronged with game without which the settlers' fare would have been meager indeed. Cut off from the pioneer industries of the sections from which the early settlers migrated, the severities of the frontier life were difficult to survive. It has been long since deer provided meat for the populace, yet one time deer were sufficiently plentiful that the settler found no trouble in killing more than enough for the needs of his family. There were wild hogs that had escaped from other frontier settlements and roamed the prairies to find roots and acorns for food in the timber along the streams. There were wolves of the coyote species that made the nights dismal with their howling, and menaced the settlers' sheep, pigs, and cattle. Prairie chickens and partridges were found everywhere in large numbers. Wild duck and geese were plentiful and the rivers abounded with edible fish.¹ In a still earlier day the American buffalo roamed the Illinois country, and vast herds pastured on the lush grasses of the Grand Prairie.

Little trace of a civilization earlier than that of the Indians is to be found within the territory of Douglas County. Even evidences of an Indian civilization within the limits of the county are scanty. What there is, is of little importance to archeologists and ethnologists. That the region was a part of the so-called Mound Builders' empire, about which much speculation has been advanced, is accepted by scientists; but little evidence exists that establishes the Mound Builders as a race distinct from the Indians who possessed the country when the white man came here. As to whether the Indians were descendants of the Mound Builders, and as to the origin of both, there are several hypotheses.

Regardless of the vexing question of the origin of the Indians, and of human existence in the region previous to that of the aboriginal tribes, some mounds have been found in Bourbon Township, from one of which a human skeleton was taken.² Other elevations that may have been formed by human hands are to be seen elsewhere in the county. By whom these mounds were built has not been established. It is not an altogether unwritten page of science, and the presence of an "elder man" in the New World may be recorded as an ethnologic fact; but the area of Douglas County seems not to have figured much in the existence of any but the white race, whose presence was not recorded in numbers sufficient to be of historical importance until almost twenty-five years after the close of the eighteenth century.

The penetration of the white man into the region west of the Appalachian Mountains, north of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi rivers began with the adventurous French missionaries and fur traders about 1659

1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 44,45.
2. Ibid., p. 36.

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when some of the latter spent the winter in the frozen region of the Great Lakes. There followed a half century of exploration and settlement of the land which later came to be called the Northwest Territory. It was in 1670 that Nicholas Perrot as agent of M. Talon, Governor-general of Canada, explored Lake Illinois (Michigan) as far as the present site of Chicago. In 1671 a grand council was held at Sault Ste. Marie, to which the Indian nations were invited. Perrot on behalf of the governor-general proclaimed the Indian nations to be under the protection of the King of France and formally announced the Northwest to be the possession of France.

There followed the historic explorations of the intrepid Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Jolliet, Rene Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle, and Father Louis Hennepin from 1673 to 1682, during which time the foundations of the French settlements in Illinois were laid. The settlements of Peoria, Kaskaskia, and Cahokia developed as the result of the work of La Salle who completed the explorations of the Mississippi River that were begun by Marquette and Jolliet. La Salle held a monopoly of the fur trade in the regions he reconnoitered. His exploits at last convinced himself and other French adventurers that the continental rivers of North America were not a short route to China and the East. He had been commissioned by the King of France to ascertain whether or not the "Father of Waters," as the Indians called the Mississippi River, or one of its western tributaries were a route to old Cathay. However, the Spaniard, Balboa, had discovered the Pacific Ocean in 1513 and learned that a vast ocean intervened between the Americas and Asia. Nevertheless, there persisted the explorer's hope that a short route to China might be found.

The exploits of Marquette, Jolliet, and Hennepin are familiar history, and except for the fact that the land that is now included in Douglas County was a part of the region that these men opened up to settlement by the white man, the record of their explorations would have no part in this historical sketch. However, the history of America, the Northwest Territory and of Illinois is also the history of any division of this area. This is particularly true of the Northwest section from which Douglas County drew its early settlers. The history of the settlement of the Northwest is one of the acts of the mighty drama of the conquest and settlement of a continent by the undaunted will of the white man.

A chain of stations and forts was set up encircling the territory penetrated by the French settlers as the result of the explorations of Marquette, Jolliet, and La Salle. It was about 1702¹ that the French

1. There is considerable dispute about this date, some authorities assert it was founded as late as 1742. When the present courthouse at Vincennes was erected, all authorities on the subject were carefully examined, and 1702 fixed upon as the correct date. It was accordingly engraved on the cornerstone of the courthouse.

Historical Sketch

post at Vincennes on the Oubache (Wabash) River was established. By the middle of the eighteenth century the French forts in the Ohio valley, along the Great Lakes and in Illinois were made ready to defend the land and its resources in fur and minerals, and the trade of its settlers against the coming of any contenders. The fond dreams of La Salle were in part at last realized; the French alone were the possessors of this vast realm, basing their claim on discovery and settlement.

Another nation, however, was now turning its attention to this extensive country, and hearing of its wealth, began to make plans for occupying it and securing the great profits arising from settlement and trade. Little is known of the settlements of the Northwest Territory until 1750 when the attention of the English was called to the occupation of this portion of the New World, which they then avowed they owned. England from the outset claimed all the land from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans, on the ground that discovery of the seacoast and its possession was a discovery and, therefore, meant possession of the whole inland. As is well known, her grants to the colonies extended "from sea to sea."

A struggle for colonial expansion ensued. While the English and French nations were engaged in wars beyond the seas, their colonial governments in the New World waged parallel wars in behalf of their parent countries. It was not until the conclusion of the French and Indian War in 1763 that the French yielded to the English. The English colonial advance uprooted the beginnings of the French empire in America. There were later attempts on the part of France to reestablish herself in America, but all were doomed to fail. The last venture of the kind was in 1861 to 1866, during the Civil War in the United States, and shortly after Douglas County was organized, when Napoleon III sought to subjugate the Republic of Mexico to foreign rule under the puppet Emperor Maximilian.

Under the terms of the Treaty of Paris, February 10, 1763, which closed the French and Indian War, all Canada was ceded to the British crown, and the valley of the Ohio was reserved, with various adjacent lands, as a domain, where the Indians were to have exclusive possession and control. These terms of the treaty, however, were never published to the Indians or enforced against white infiltration.¹ The Northwest Territory came entirely under the British rule.

Fearing the growth of the spirit of independence among the colonists along the eastern seaboard, King George III issued the Proclamation Line in 1763 which forbade his colonial subjects from settling beyond the sources of the rivers which fall into the Atlantic Ocean. The in-

1. P. T. Hansard, "Definitive Treaty," The Parliamentary History of England (London, 1813), XV, 1291-1303.

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habitants of Vincennes were commanded to abandon their settlements and join some of the eastern English colonies. Strong opposition led to a change of policy on the part of Great Britain. In 1773 the British Parliament passed an act extending the boundary of Quebec so as to include the territory lying within the present states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan. It was evident that the British crown wished to colonize the Northwest with settlers either direct from England or from Canada where the independence movement either was not strong or did not exist.

Nevertheless hardy frontiersmen from Virginia, Pennsylvania, and the Carolinas remembered that this vast western empire had been granted to the colonists in their first royal charters. From the start they flouted the king's line, confident that he was too far away to prevent their steady westward progress. Pioneers from the hinterland of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the Carolinas began to spread through the dense forests of the Ohio, Cumberland, and Tennessee valleys. New settlements were rapidly projected and established, and the promise of a large trade was speedily fulfilled.

The British were successful colonizers and soon a conflict arose between the English colonists from Canada and the pioneers from the eastern states. The English made promises to the Indians, which for the most part were never fulfilled. The colonists from the states came on, pushing farther back the Indians who at times inflicted terrible revenge on the settlers with bloody butcherings and scalplings. The English sought to align the Indians on their side in the developing conflict by promises and contracts with the natives. The Indians generally were outwitted, though they did combine with the British forces when the Colonial government in the War for Independence sought to conquer the Northwest.

Throughout the exploration and early settlement period of North America the Indians, with the exception of the tribes of the Iroquois nation, were more favorable to the French than to the English. The attitude of the Indians was expressed by an old chief of an Ohio tribe in 1758 when he said: "The Indians on the Ohio left you because of your own fault. When we heard the French were coming, we asked you for help and arms, but we did not get them. The French came, they treated us kindly, and gained our affections. The Governor of Virginia settled on our lands for his own benefit,, and, when we wanted help, forsook us."¹

When the English began to take possession of the land from the French, they promised religious freedom to all Catholics and granted the right to the French settlers to leave the country with all their effects if they wished, or to remain with the privileges of Englishmen.² The

1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 37.

2. Ibid., p. 44.

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English made friends with the French in an effort to hold them to the British crown, especially in the province of Quebec in Canada. In consequence of this liberal policy pursued by the British government toward the French settlers of the West, the French settlers were disposed to favor England in the war which followed between the British colonies and the home country; but the early alliance between France and the colonies soon brought them to the side of the War for Independence.

Emigration to the western lands was encouraged by the Governor of Virginia. Land companies were organized and settlements were established between the Alleghenies and the Ohio River, and western land speculators were active in Illinois and on the Wabash River. Among the land companies that bartered with the Indians were the Illinois, the Vandalia, and the Wabash Land companies. Extensive schemes for the colonization of the West were frustrated by the breaking out of the Revolution. Every post of importance in the West was held by the English at the outbreak of the Revolution.

As the result of an expedition of conquest organized and executed in 1778 by General George Rogers Clark of Virginia, the British power was ended north of the Ohio River. The same year the Virginia legislature established the County of Illinois and John Todd was appointed civil governor of the territory. The immediate years following were full of confusion and widespread disturbance. This was due in part to the conflicting interests of the remnants of English control and the new settlers, and to the distaste of the French traders for the business methods of the American colonists whose Continental money was an annoyance to the French; and also to the reluctance of the Indians to yield peacefully to the hardy frontiersmen, many of whom were veterans of the Revolutionary War. Land speculation schemes and uncertainty of titles and claims added to the confusion in general.¹

The government of the County of Illinois broke down under the strain of frontier life. Governor Todd left Illinois after having set up certain courts and other forms of governmental organization. The high-handed methods of some of the pioneers forced the French, with whom they differed much in religion, manners, language, and customs, to migrate across the Mississippi River where they sought more congenial conditions under the Spanish who held the Louisiana country.² Disorder was rampant and strife was the temper of all the Northwest. The question of orderly government arose and the Continental Congress was appealed to for aid in establishing authority that would guarantee the safety of life and property.

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1. Theodore Calvin Pease, The Story of Illinois (Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co., 1925), p. 55,56; Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 53.
 2. Pease, op. cit., p. 57,58.

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The problem of Western organization was expedited by the Ordinance of 1787, for it was seen by that time that settlement must take place under the supervision of the central government. The small states represented in the Continental Congress had repeatedly urged the "land rich" states to cede their western land titles to Congress. This, New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Virginia finally did. The pooling of these claims formed the vast region organized under the Ordinance of 1787, adopted by the Continental Congress just two months before the adoption of the Constitution. Congressional action on territorial organization had been delayed because of reports that the prairies were a hopeless desert and sure never to be densely populated.

Although the United States had secured formal title to this region by the Treaty of Paris in 1783, which closed the Revolutionary War, and had prevailed on the various states to relinquish their claims, the Indian title to the Northwest still held. How the Indians were dispossessed is not a part of this historical sketch, but it was as if a giant hand had relentlessly swept the Indians north and west for almost a century.

The Ordinance set forth the "rights of men" which were not made a part of the Constitution until December 15, 1791, and on December 18, 1865, as amendments to that document. The principles of the Ordinance of 1787 set a pattern for practically every state constitution written, as the nation moved westward from sea to sea. It became a basis upon which was to be reared one of civilization's great forward surges. It enunciated the principle that the utmost good faith shall always be observed towards the Indians. It declared that their lands and property shall never be taken from them without their consent. It is recognized as one of the world's greatest charters of human rights.

Out of the territory were formed the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. The territory included that portion of Minnesota west of the Mississippi, to which was added a part of the Louisiana Purchase to form Minnesota Territory in 1849. From 1787 to 1800 Illinois was a part of the Northwest Territory; from 1800 to 1809 it was part of Indiana Territory, after Ohio had been admitted to statehood. From the creation of Illinois Territory in 1809 until sometime after its organization as a state in 1818, it is said, the government of Illinois was more aristocratic than it ever has been since.¹

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1. Pease, The Story of Illinois, p. 98, 99. Property qualification for suffrage and debtor's laws mitigated against the growth of popular government in the territory; laws for settlement of the poor prohibited their free movement. One of the qualifications for holding office as a territorial representative was that the candidate must hold in fee simple 200 acres of land. Officials sent by Congress to the territory were, because of the structure of society of the day, accorded the position and consideration of "gentlemen."

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During the pioneer age of the Northwest, Illinois was generally exempt from Indian warfare. Ohio and Indiana were the larger battlefields. It was while the state area was still the Illinois Territory that the Dearborn Massacre was perpetrated by the Indians; also the War of 1812 was waged with Great Britain.

In 1818 a petition was presented to the Congress of the United States from the Illinois Territorial Legislature, then sitting at Kaskaskia, praying for admission to the Union as a state. Illinois was adopted into the family of states, December 30, 1818.¹

The history of the minor subdivision, Douglas County, is attached to many remote events which are well known to history and yet do not constitute a part of the archival record of the county. Yet Douglas County is limned against the background of its numerous parent governmental and social organizations.

While the region of which Douglas County is now a minor division was under territorial form of government its area was included in different county governments, beginning with Knox County when it was formed in 1790 out of the Northwest Territory as organized by the Ordinance of 1787. It continued as such until 1801 when St. Clair County was formed out of the Indiana Territory. It remained a part of St. Clair County until 1812 when it was included in Madison County, as a part of the Illinois Territory which had been formed in 1809. In 1815 the area was made a part of Edwards County and the next year it was included in Crawford County, still in the Territory of Illinois. In 1818 when Illinois was admitted to statehood, the Douglas County area was made a part of Clark County. As settlement progressed and population growths advanced new counties were formed and organized, so in 1823 the area was found within the boundaries of Edgar County. Its last foster-parent government was Coles County which adopted it in 1831, and under which county government it grew into adulthood and finally asserted its autonomy as a county administrative unit of Illinois.

The record of settlement of the area of Douglas County proper began about 1829, which was before the organization of Coles County and while the area was yet included in Edgar County. The original pioneer seems to have been John Richman, who, in 1829, settled in what is now Camargo Township. He was a native of West Virginia and came to Vermilion County, Illinois, with his father when a lad about sixteen years of age. Quest for honey led the Richmans into the timber of the Embarrass River district. The attraction of the Grand Prairie was too strong to resist settlement there. So far as records reveal there was no other white settler in the Douglas County area at this time.² Har-

1. 3 U.S.Stat.L. 428.

2. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 39.

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rison Gill of Kentucky entered land in the neighborhood of the Richman family and broke the solitude in which they had lived for almost a year. Gill came with a land patent signed by President Andrew Jackson; and later Isaac Moss and John Hammet joined the pioneers. Hammet, a Virginian, entered 800 acres of land north of the village of Camargo.

It was in the Fall of 1830 that Hammet moved to his new purchase, bringing his family by carriage, while the household goods were transported by horses and oxen. This family suffered great privations along with the earlier arrivals. Milling was done in Indiana at a distance of forty miles or more. John Hammet died in the winter of 1834 and left the responsibilities of a family on the western frontier to his widow, whose name ranks high in the annals of pioneer women of the country.

The first white settlers who entered the land were not familiar with prairie farming, having come from the timbered regions of Kentucky, the Virginias, Maryland, and Ohio. After first attempts to cultivate the wild prairies, they resorted to clearing the timbered points of land along the Embarrass and Kaskaskia rivers, which land they were able to cultivate with the handmade farm implements and machinery brought with them from the East.

Since the natural habitat of the Indian was the wooded regions, there are few traditions of Indian life in the county. The Grand Prairie served mainly as a hunting ground for the various tribes located in the Illinois country and seldom afforded a site for a village, save in the heavily timbered margins of the rivers. In Douglas County there were no such sites and although there are evidences of Indians having been here, it was probably only for the purpose of hunting. There is a tradition that the government surveyors were attacked by a roving band in the eastern part of the county, and while it is quite possible, there is no authentic information in regard to it.¹

But few of the early settlers saw any Indians here, as they generally had left the region before the date of the earliest arrivals. One of the stories often told and sometimes published, relates that Indians visited the home of John Hammet during his first winter in the county. They were friendly and gave no cause for alarm. Another tale told is that of how Harrison Gill visited a camp of Indians at a place called Hugo, when his uncle jocosely informed the chief that his nephew was in quest of a wife. This created a commotion among the maidens who held a conference to decide whether one of their number should become the wife of a white man. The decision was that there would be no objection to race or color, provided the wife-seeker could hunt. Young Gill, it is said, was forced to escape from the predicament in which his uncle had placed him by pleading that he was a poor huntsman.

1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 38,39.

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Among the other early settlers were Eli Sargent and family of Maryland, whose preference for Douglas County prairie was over that of the lands of Sangamon County, the Wabash River valley of Indiana, and of Clark County, Illinois, all of which he inspected before entering 400 acres of Douglas County land. Sargent Township was named for this pioneer family whose first abode on the land was fashioned after that of an Indian wigwam. There were the settlers William Brian of Ohio, Jacob Taylor, and James Drew, a youth of eighteen years who entered 80 acres of land by borrowing \$100 of Taylor, his brother-in-law. This was about 1839, and there were no other settlers within thirty miles west in the direction of Decatur. Jacob Mosbarger of Ohio was among the early comers to what is now Garrett Township in the northwest section of the county. Mosbarger had settled in Indiana enroute from Ohio, and later, 1845, started west with the intention of going to Iowa; but he was so favorably impressed with the Grand Prairie that he made his home on rented land on the edge of the timber on the Lake Fork tributary of the Kaskaskia River. Two years later he entered a claim for government land, preempting 160 acres, which long remained in the family. Nathan Garrett, for whom Garrett Township was named, came to the county in 1845 and rented land until 1852 when he entered 80 acres, to which he successively added other acres by thrifty and industry.¹

By the time the Douglas County area was populous enough to become sufficiently politically strong to wage a successful campaign for separation from Coles County, the original area of the parent county had been split and the small county of Cumberland was set off on the south in 1843. Political agitation for division of Coles County into two, instead of three counties was defeated in three campaigns in which candidates for the General Assembly announced themselves in favor of or opposed to the proposal. Twice the people of Charleston, the Coles county seat, defeated the split at the polls or in the lobby of the General Assembly. Had the county been divided into two, Charleston would have been too far from the center to have retained the seat of justice. After the organization of Cumberland County, it was sixteen years before there was political strength sufficient to carry an election for the separation of the northern portion of the county into Douglas.

It was then considered too tedious and time-consuming for citizens of the northern section to make the journey over the prairie to the county seat, which was located from twenty to twenty-five miles south of the geographical center of Coles County. The General Assembly enacted a law in 1857, which if it had been accepted by a majority of the qualified voters of Coles and Champaign counties, would have authorized the organization of a county to be called Douglas out of the northern portion of Coles and a section three miles in width across the southern part of

1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 41-43.

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Champaign.¹ This act provided that "should a majority of the qualified voters of Champaign County voting at the election designated in the act not vote in favor of creating the new county of Douglas, and a majority of all the legal voters of Coles County voting at said election shall vote in favor of the said new county, then and in that case the said new County of Douglas shall be and the same is hereby created out of the portion of Coles County mentioned and described in the first section of the act." That portion of the act referring to the County of Champaign was then to be of no effect.

The act of organization that was approved by the twenty-first General Assembly February 8, 1859, limited the formation of the new county to the lands of Coles County.² The new county was the next to the last created in the state, preceding the creation of Ford County by one day. The bill that was passed by the General Assembly in its description of boundaries omitted township 14 of ranges 10, 11, and 14.³ The defective bill had passed both houses of the General Assembly before this error was discovered, and only three days of the session remained. Dr. J. W. McKinney of Camargo, who had been instrumental in drafting the bill, prepared a supplementary one adding eighteen sections of land so as to make the proposed county contain the required area "of not less than 400 square miles."⁴ The new bill was considered in the House, under a suspension of rules, and read a second time and passed, reported to the Senate and again passed under a suspension of the rules. The supplementary act was approved February 16, 1859, and in addition to providing the additional square miles, requisite for a county of legal size, it postponed the day of election for the approval by the qualified voters of

1. L.1857, p. 71.

2. L.1859, p. 24.

3. Ibid. "Commencing at the northeast corner of the County of Coles, thence west on the line between said county and the County of Champaign, to the northwest corner of the County of Coles; thence south on the west line of Coles County, to the southwest corner of section eighteen (18), township fourteen (14) north, of range seven, east; thence east, on the section line, to the southwest corner of section eighteen (18), township fourteen (14) north, range ten east; thence north to the township line between townships fourteen (14) and fifteen (15); thence east, on said line, to the east line of Coles County; and thence north, on the east line of Coles County, to the place of beginning, be and the same is hereby created into a new county, to be called the County of Douglas: Provided, that a majority of all the voters of said County of Coles, voting on the question, shall vote for the same, in the manner hereinafter proscribed."

4. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 11, 12.

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Coles County for the creation of the new county. The date set by the supplementary act was the third Monday of March, 1859.¹

The election for the approval was held and the clerk of the county court of Coles County made the return of the votes, as directed by the act, to Coleman Bright and J.B. McCown who were designated to receive the same on behalf of the new county. The movement for the organization of the county had been headed by Bright, McCown, Dr. McKinney, Martin Rice, W.H. Lamb, J.R. Hammet, and others.

The voters gave their approval for the organization at the election held on the third Monday of March, 1859. The qualified voters of the County of Douglas held an election on the second Monday of April, as authorized by the act, for the purpose of electing all county officers, excepting justices of the peace, constables, and other officers who were previously elected and qualified in the County of Coles, whose term of office had not expired at the time of the election and whose place of residence was embraced within the limits of the new county.²

The election was conducted by the judges of election then holding office under appointment in the County of Coles and at the usual places of holding elections. The location of the permanent county seat also was decided at this election, in accordance with a provision in the act of establishment.³ This question was of consuming interest to the voters at this first county election. It exceeded the interest taken in choosing the county officers. Three locations were presented for a preferred vote; these were Camargo, Tuscola, and Arcola. None received a majority of votes cast and a second election was made necessary. Camargo received the lowest number of votes cast and the choice was then to be made between Tuscola and Arcola. The charge was made that Arcola received sufficient illegal votes to eliminate Camargo for second place on the ballot in the final election to be held.⁴ Because of the accusations against the partisans of Arcola by those favoring Camargo, the latter were doubly

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1. L.1859, p. 28. "That the following described territory, to wit: Sections one (1), two (2), three (3), four (4), five (5), six (6), seven (7), eight (8), nine (9), ten (10), fifteen (15), sixteen (16), seventeen (17), eighteen (18), township No. 14, range No. 10, and section six (6), in township No. 14, range No. 11, and sections four (4), five (5), and six (6), in township No. 14, range No. 14 west, be and the same are hereby declared to be a part of the County of Douglas, as fully and completely, for all purposes whatsoever, as if they had been contained within the boundaries set forth in the act to which this act is supplementary."
 2. L.1859, p. 25,26.
 3. Ibid., p. 26.
 4. Henry C. Niles, History of Douglas County, Illinois (Tuscola: Converse and Parks, 1876), p. 10,11. Hereafter cited as Douglas County. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 55,56.

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enthusiastic in favor of Tuscola becoming the county seat in the election to be called later by the county court under the authorization of the enabling act.

In preparation for the first election of county officers, a non-partisan convention was held in a board shanty on the McCarty farm two and one-half miles east of Tuscola. The men nominated, and later elected, were James Ewing for county judge; J. D. Murdock and Robert Hopkins for associate justices; John Chandler for clerk; A. G. Wallace for circuit clerk and recorder; S. B. Logan for sheriff; William Hancock for treasurer; H. C. Niles for surveyor; Harvey D. Bassett for coroner; and William Sipple for school commissioner.¹ The first meeting of the county court was held April 28, 1859, in Camargo, the oldest village of the county, which was designated the county seat pro tem, pending the decision of the runoff election.² The new county was considered constitutionally organized when the newly elected officers had been bonded and commissioned as qualified for their respective offices.³ The clerk of the circuit court of the new county then gave notice to the judge of the fourth judicial circuit, who was directed to hold court at such places as designated by the county court until the county seat was permanently located.⁴

One other action necessary to comply with the act of establishment, was that of appointment by the county court of a commissioner to transcribe from the Coles County archives those records that pertained to Douglas County.⁵ W. H. Lamb was appointed and took the oath of office to fulfill the commission. The deeds, mortgages, and title papers of every description of all lands lying in Douglas County, the records of which were filed in the recorder's office of Coles County, were copied into blank books purchased for the purpose by order of the court. According to the act of authorization these transcribed records became the official records of the new county and were valid as evidence in all courts.

Douglas County was now ready to administer its own affairs as a unit of state government. Its electors had complied with the legal requirements of transition from one county unit to a newborn one. The permanent county-seat was yet to be determined. At the first meeting of the county court it was ordered that the election "to choose between the points of Tuscola and Arcola, contesting points for the county seat," be held on May 30, 1859.⁶ Records of the time show that the contest between the contending "points" for the county seat was heated and the canvassing was spirited. The election was something of a mixture of seriousness and prankishness

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1. Niles, Douglas County, p. 11. The Tuscola (Illinois) Journal, Historical Edition, September 7, 1922.
 2. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 1.
 3. L.1859, p. 27.
 4. Ibid.
 5. Ibid., p. 27, 28.
 6. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 1.



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on the part of the qualified voters of the contending cities and the rest of the county which did not take the contest seriously.¹ The total vote was more than three times the number of qualified voters in the county. Employees on the large farms voted early and often; and the various pollbooks showed how widespread the interest was alleged to be by exhibiting the names of many postmasters in the United States as qualified voters on the question. The fun was carried so far that pranksters weighed the pollbooks before they were canvassed by the judges of the election, in order to determine by weight the difference between the vote of the adherents of Tuscola and Arcola.²

The judges decided in favor of Tuscola, and while the fraudulent votes were plainly apparent, it was looked upon as a great joke and the issue accepted as final. The defeated party started legal action in the Coles county court to contest the election, but the initial proceedings were allowed to die a natural death.

The naming of the county had encountered no little difficulty, which was a commentary on the tense political atmosphere of the time. The Republican party was formed in 1854 and the proposed new county was Republican in sympathies. W. D. Watson, of Camargo, was state senator and a Republican. The petition to the General Assembly for the act of authorization asked for the name of Richman, that of the first white settler. Others proposed and pressed for the name of Watson. The subject was discussed at local meetings with a good deal of concern. There was a disposition on the part of the General Assembly, which was sufficiently Democratic in sympathy to reject both names, and to honor the name of Stephen A. Douglas with its designation.³

The county was christened Douglas; and legislators promised those who opposed the name that they would support a petition to change it after the county was organized. The name finally lost all political significance and in time even those who opposed it came to feel that it was worthily bestowed in honor of a statesman, brilliant and patriotic, though considered by historians "unscrupulous and demagogic." Opposition to the designation was not relaxed until it became apparent that the bill could not be passed with another name. Douglas had just been elected United States senator by the General Assembly for the third time and feeling was running high over issues that had been argued by Abraham Lincoln and Douglas in joint debate in the Autumn of 1858. Without the help of the Democrats in the General Assembly the petitioners for the act of organization of the new county could not have won. The name of Douglas was the price paid for county independence.

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1. The Tuscola (Illinois) Journal, Historical Edition, September 7, 1922.
 2. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 56.
 3. Niles, Douglas County, p. 9; Battle and Niles, op. cit., Part III, p. 7,8.

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"The Little Giant," as Douglas was called, had opposed imposing slavery on the proposed state of Kansas. The Illinois senator claimed for Kansas the right of free choice. Biographers and historians assert that he "was a good enough trickster to have made his protest safely, if he cared to do so. As it was he braved the hatred of (President) Buchanan and the fury of his Southern friends by instant, manly, courageous and continuous opposition."¹ It has been recorded that Douglas stood alone in a circle of enemies, and that at no other time did he show so many of the qualities of a great leader. At the same time he was playing a masterly game of political strategy, struggling against great difficulties to regain his hold on the political life of Illinois.² He was opposed at every turn by the man whose shadow fell across his path - "the shadow of a cool sinister figure, his relentless enemy." It was Abraham Lincoln of Illinois. His whole battle turned on the struggle with Lincoln.³

To most of the leading Republicans in Illinois it seemed altogether unwise and undesirable that their party, which had seemed to be losing ground, should do anything but welcome Douglas as an ally. The Republican leaders of the East, and the great Republican journals, like the Chicago Tribune, declared their wish that Douglas should be reelected.⁴ That Douglas had rendered great service to Illinois in the field of industrial and commercial expansion was undeniable. His leadership in the development of railways, canals, and other public works was gratefully acknowledged. When he traveled about Illinois in joint debate with Lincoln he was given the use of a private car and a special train by George B. McClellan, a young engineer officer who had resigned from the army and was now general superintendent of the Illinois Central Railroad. McClellan afterwards became the Commanding General of the Union forces in the Civil War when Douglas' political nemesis was president.⁵

When Senator Douglas held President Lincoln's hat while his erst-while Republican opponent was delivering his inaugural address at the capitol in Washington on March 4, 1861, much bad feeling that had been engendered in the political struggles of the two Illinois statesmen was softened. Douglas then said: "If I cannot be president, I can at least hold his hat." Thus a great historic struggle, one that was destined to determine the course of American, if not world history, became intertwined with the history of the county (in more than mere name as will be seen later) that was next to the last one formed out of the rich lands of Illinois.

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1. Lord Charnwood, Abraham Lincoln (New York: Garden City Publishing Co., 1917), p. 140, 141.
 2. Nathaniel W. Stephenson, Lincoln (Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1922), p. 84.
 3. Ibid.
 4. Charnwood, op. cit., p. 141.
 5. Stephenson, op. cit., p. 88, 89.

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The county having been organized, named, and the county seat located, the most important and interest-consuming problems of the new political life of the citizens were settled for the time being, and leisurely administration of affairs became the order of the day. There was little of permanent interest in the first transactions of the county court. The first business was to arrange and name the election precincts of the new county, to provide for the construction of county buildings, for the selection of grand and petit juries. This occupied the three sessions previous to March, 1860. There was no money in the treasury and the order was entered in the minutes of the second day's session of the first meeting of the county court, April 29, 1859, that "the court, sheriff, and clerk charge nothing for their services for the present term of the court."¹

At this first term of the court the clerk was authorized "to receive for record any and all donations that may be offered and property secured to the county court for the use of the people of the county, conditioned for the location of the county seat at either Tuscola or Arcola." At the June term of court it was ordered that the first list of names of persons for grand and petit juries for the ensuing term of the circuit court be approved.² At this same term of court the first road districts were given boundaries. There were twenty-three districts organized and their supervisors appointed. It was at this term that William H. Lamb was appointed commissioner to transcribe from Coles County the records that necessarily belonged to Douglas County. Lamb was ordered paid half out of the county revenues of 1860 and half out of the revenues of 1861.³

The first court order for payment of money out of the county treasury was for the sum of six dollars to be paid to Judge Ewing during the June term, 1859. Associate Justices Murdock and Hopkins received five dollars each for their services under an order entered later at the same term. The sheriff was paid two dollars and the clerk six dollars for their services.⁴

Roadmaking became at this time a public enterprise and the court's records show numerous petitions and orders for the location and the construction of new roads which were in time to thread the whole countryside connecting up the farms with the market places and stations on railroads which were penetrating Douglas County and further opening up the unsettled lands of all Illinois to emigrants from Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana. At the September term of court, 1859, it was ordered that "all able bodied men, not lawfully exempt, over the age of twenty-one years and under the age of fifty be and are hereby required to perform four days labor on some road within the county."⁵ At this same term three more

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1. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 1.
 2. Ibid.
 3. Ibid., p. 5,6.
 4. Ibid., p. 6.
 5. Ibid., p. 11.

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road districts were added to those already formed, and the boundaries of others were altered.

The first county tax levy was ordered on September 6, 1859. The rate set was thirty-three cents on every one hundred dollars of taxable property in the county for the year 1859. At the same term the county treasurer was ordered to pay the sheriff \$17.80 for conveying a prisoner from the jail at Charleston, Coles County, to the Douglas county court, "including guard, boarding and lodging." That the property was assessed for the purposes of taxation was shown on the minutes of the county court record at this time by an order for paying the county assessor \$172.50 "for services as assessor and as per bill filed."¹

The act authorizing the organization of Douglas County did not contain the customary requirement of a donation for the site of a courthouse and material for its construction on the part of those interested in obtaining the location of the county seat at any particular place in the county. In the early period of Illinois statehood, it was considered that the expense of erecting county buildings should be the responsibility of the community seeking the location, instead of the county as a whole. In the case of Douglas County the necessity for such a provision in the enabling act did not exist, and it was doubtful whether the citizens of the county were willing to invite a competition in donations as a means of obtaining the location of the county seat.

At the March, 1860, session, the county court expressed the belief that, although a suitable house for county offices was necessary, the county was not able at the time to erect such a building without assistance. The county had been in official existence for almost a year and as yet Tuscola as the county seat had done nothing to provide a site or materials for a new courthouse.² The court took action leading to the acceptance of a donation of sixteen lots in the plat of the original town of Tuscola. Lot fourteen in block 39 of the plat was selected as the building site of the new courthouse. Some cash subscription was made toward the purchase of material and the construction of the building, the cost of which was set by the court at a sum of not more than \$2,000.

A contract was entered into with Michael Noel and William Chambers for the erection of a courthouse in the sum of \$1,900. John Chandler was made the agent of the county to procure the deeds for the town lots that were donated for the purpose of building a courthouse. The building constructed was a two-story frame structure which was said to look more like a warehouse than a public building.³ It was considered only

1. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 15.

2. Ibid., p. 46.

3. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 68.

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a temporary home for the county offices and after the second courthouse was erected it was used as a storage place. Although by no means satisfactory, the building was a great advantage over none at all. The county offices were located in privately owned buildings in Tuscola until the new courthouse was completed and ready for occupancy in 1861. The county building was unplastered until 1863, though it had been painted and furnished with blinds.¹ Even before the structure was completed it was insured, and a system of lightning rods was installed. This latter safeguard cost \$20.25. Candles and candlesticks were purchased for the use of the circuit court.²

By 1864 the building was considered objectionable and inferior to public structures in other counties. The necessity for a jail was a pressing one and these considerations contributed to hastening the erection of a more substantial courthouse and jail. The need for a jail had been met by incarcerating persons under arrest or under jail sentence in jails of other counties. This was unsatisfactory and expensive. Prisoners had difficulty in maintaining contact with their attorneys and the county sheriff was obliged to provide guards and transportation for arrested and imprisoned persons when they were required to appear before Douglas County courts.

In the meantime citizens of Tuscola realized the desirability of a new and more modern courthouse and block C of the original town plat was donated to the county in consideration that a county building of a substantial character should be erected on it within four years from March 17, 1864. The grounds were to be used exclusively for county buildings and when they ceased to be used for such purposes, they were to revert to the grantors.³ In compliance with these conditions the county court on March 28, 1864, initiated action for the construction of a new courthouse and a jail.

O. S. Kinney of Chicago was appointed architect and authorized to draw the plans and specifications. These called for a three-storied brick structure, with a jail on the ground floor; the county offices were above the jail, and the courtroom was on the third floor. The contracts for the different phases of construction were let; they totaled \$23,450. Due to the rise in the price of materials and increased labor costs, the county court was obliged to extend the dates for fulfilling contracts and to permit increases over the original cost estimates of the contractors. The new courthouse was completed in the Spring of 1866 at a cost of \$42,000.⁴ This was the period of the Civil War and

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1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 65,66; County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 63,75,117.
 2. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 87,128,160.
 3. Battle and Niles, op. cit., Part III, p. 66.
 4. Ibid., p. 68.

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the conditions under which the structure was built were greatly changed during the period of its construction.

The building was unsatisfactory in many respects and fell far short of what the prideful citizens of the new county desired in the way of a county building. The walls were constructed of unevenly burned brick of an inferior quality. The structure was said to present the appearance of a convalescent patient after a bad case of smallpox. The tiling in the floor of the hall was poorly laid, and the stone steps were almost ready to topple when finished. Repairs were constantly needed, and the upkeep was expensive because of defects in construction. However, the arrangements of the building were acceptable, commodious, and adequate. The courtroom was decorated with mural paintings representing primitive and modern methods of agriculture.¹

It was held that the feature combining the courthouse and jail in one structure was not an unqualified success. There were special cells for female prisoners and the insane. Confinement in jail of the mentally diseased was a common practice of the time. There were six cells large enough only for a person to lie down in, and these had no openings to the outer air for either light or ventilation. Commentators said they were unfit for the confinement of animals. The jail also was said to lack even the merit of security. Finally in 1871 and 1872 the grand jury condemned the jail, and in 1874, the jury again declared the jail to be a nuisance - "a perfectly outrageous" one - and asked that the same be abated as against the credit and reputation of the county. Despite the fact that the grand jury reported that "the jail as a place of confinement of offenders was unsafe and inhuman," and also recommended that a suitable place be provided, the supervisors adjourned their meeting on May 26, 1874, without taking action in accord with the jury's report.²

Definite action on the jail was not taken until July 12, 1876, when the supervisors authorized the sheriff to move all prisoners to the Champaign county jail or any other suitable jail at the discretion of the board of supervisors.³ Thus the county repeated the practice of an earlier day of keeping its arrested persons and offenders in the jails of other counties, a practice which was begun at the time the county was organized in 1859. For sixteen years it continued to do so. On May 11, 1892, the committee on new jail and sheriff's residence reported favorably, and lots three and four in block 48 of the original plat of Tuscola were purchased on which to build the new jail and

1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 68,69.

2. Supervisors' Record, v. A, p. 279.

3. Ibid., p. 344.

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residence.¹ The contract was let to the Fred J. Meyers Company of Covington, Kentucky, for \$11,950.² A bond issue of \$10,000 was voted by the county, the bonds to bear interest at six percent, payable annually. To pay these bonds the supervisors ordered levied a direct tax, beginning January 1, 1893, and each year thereafter until the \$10,000 bond issue and interest on the same was paid in full.³

A heating plant was included in the arrangements for the new jail and sheriff's residence. The installation plan was so drawn that the plant was used also for heating the courthouse. This second jail was used until October 25, 1935, when the grand jury again reported the jail to be in a deplorable condition and ordered that a new one be built.⁴ In December of the same year an architect was employed to draw the plans for the new structure.⁵

It was in September, 1891, that the board of supervisors ordered the installation of electric lights for use in the courthouse and jail.⁶ This was the first consideration given to the use of electricity in Douglas County buildings, and indicates a step in advance in county house-keeping when considered in connection with the long delay in modernizing the county's jail facilities.

The old brick courthouse finally became something of an eyesore to citizens and in 1909 a special election was called for the purpose of voting on the construction of a new and third courthouse for Douglas County. The electors approved the project and a new three-storied structure of steel, brick, and Indiana Bedford stone was erected in Tuscola. It was occupied in 1913. Although it is a commodious building, it is inadequate for all county purposes. Offices of the county coroner, the state's attorney and adult probation officer must be maintained in privately owned business houses. The new county building, together with the furnishings, cost \$145,000.

The foregoing changes in the housing of county offices and in the physical maintenance of other county services, occurred during the time the county government was passing through certain structural evolutions: transitions from forms established under the Constitution of 1848, under which Douglas County was organized, and forms authorized by the Constitution of 1870. In accordance with the act of establishment the county was attached to the twenty-fifth congressional district and the eighteenth senatorial district of the state.⁷ At the date of this writ-

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1. Supervisors' Record, v. C, p. 43,44.
 2. Ibid., p. 54.
 3. Ibid., p. 339,340.
 4. Ibid., v. G, p. 513.
 5. Ibid., p. 553.
 6. Ibid., v. B, p. 545,570.
 7. L.1859, p. 28.

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ing the county is included in the nineteenth congressional district and the thirty-fourth senatorial district. The act also provided that all suits and prosecutions, including all proceedings in the county court, that were commenced in Coles County before the organization of Douglas County were to be prosecuted and conducted to their final termination in the County of Coles. All judgments that were obtained in such actions were to have the same lien upon all property within the limits of Douglas County as though the territory had not been organized into a separate unit.¹

The first county administration was set up under the Constitution of 1848 and the general laws of 1849. The county government offices were: a county court composed of a judge and two associate justices of the peace, offices of a county clerk, circuit court clerk and recorder, assessor and treasurer (afterwards collector and treasurer), sheriff, coroner, school commissioner, and surveyor. The office of state's attorney was filled until 1872 by the electorate of the circuit court district to which Douglas County belonged. The title of school commissioner was changed to superintendent of schools after 1865.

The county court had all the powers and jurisdiction of the probate court and was both juridical and administrative in its functions until the county adopted the township form of organization in 1867; at the institution of township government in 1868, the board of county supervisors took over the administrative functions of the court.² The county court under the constitution had such jurisdiction in civil cases as was conferred by the General Assembly, and in such criminal cases as was prescribed by law, where the punishment was by fine only, not exceeding \$100.³

The growth of the population, the development of the county agriculturally, and increased facilities for transportation changed the circumstances of county government to such an extent that by 1867 there was a demand for township organization as provided by the constitution.⁴ At an election held November 5, 1867, a majority of the electors voted for township organization. Although this form of organization multiplied the number of taxing bodies and added to the machinery of government, it was widely considered a further implementing of the democratic system of local self-government. In the transfer of the administrative and fiscal functions of the county court to the board of county supervisors, a wide distribution of services formerly concentrated in the county court of three persons, was taken over by a much larger body of locally elected officers who administered affairs for the county when sitting as a board, and locally when acting separately in behalf of their separate township constituencies.⁵

1. L.1859, p. 26,27.

2. L.1849, p. 63.

3. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 18.

4. Ibid., Art. VII, sec. 6.

5. L.1849, p. 202.

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Pursuant to the expressed will of the electorate upon adoption of the township form of organization, the county court appointed John B. McCann, Henry B. Evans, and Lucius McAllister commissioners, in accordance with the laws governing township organization, "to divide the county into towns by making as many towns as there are townships according to government surveys."¹ The townships were to be named in accordance with the wishes of their inhabitants. If there was no unanimity as to the name, the commissioners were empowered to designate the name.² The report on division and names for the new townships was made March 2, 1868. The names of the election precincts that had been defined in 1860 were retained as names of the townships formed; however, their limits were somewhat altered. There were eight townships as follows: Newman, Camargo, Tuscola, Garrett, Sargent, Deer Creek, Arcola, and Bourbon.

This division remained until 1882, when J. D. Murdock appeared before the board of county supervisors and presented a petition for the formation of a new township out of Camargo and Newman, which townships were much larger than the others. The new division was to be called Murdock. The object of its formation was to provide a more convenient and accessible place of voting and for transacting the business of the township generally.³ The county board deferred action on the petition, and later heard a remonstrance in the form of a counter petition against the formation of the new township. The supervisors finally ordered the creation of Murdock Township with boundaries as given in the original petition. The decision was appealed to the circuit court, and in the October term of 1883, the action of the board of supervisors was confirmed. Thus the new township became the ninth town division of Douglas County.⁴

The name of Deer Creek Township was changed to Bowdre because there was already a township named Deer Creek in Tazewell County; and although, the name Deer Creek had been used for many years as a county voting precinct, the general laws on township organization made it unlawful to have two with the same name in the state. When the report of the commissioners on township organization was sent to the Secretary of State, the duplication in names was discovered and the name later changed by the board of supervisors to that of one of the oldest settlers and the first supervisor of the township, Squire Benjamin Bowdre.⁵

The new county administrative system had hardly gotten under way - at least sufficient time for a worth-while test had not been allowed by the opponents of township organization - before an election to abolish it was forced by dissatisfied citizens. On September 18, 1868, on peti-

1. L.1849, p. 190.

2. Ibid.

3. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 60,62,319.

4. Ibid., p. 319.

5. Ibid., p. 63,299; Supervisors' Record, v. A, p. 1.

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tion of fifty qualified voters, the board of supervisors ordered an election to be held the following November at which time the question was resubmitted to the electors. The majority of the voters refused then to abolish the township form of county government and it has continued to the present time.¹

In addition to their special township duties, the members of the board of supervisors were charged with certain county responsibilities, among which were the care of the poor and the management of the county poorhouse and farm, the audit of the accounts of town officers, and the examination of the assessment rolls of the several townships. The transition from the county court to the township and board-of-supervisors form of administration of local town and county government was the last basic change in the government of Douglas County. The new form of administration reflected political concepts that were the outgrowth of the economic development of the county. The increase in the population of the state, the growth of agriculture and industry affected the economic life of the commonwealth as a whole. Along with this development came political demands for wider participation on the part of the masses in the administration of government. The democratic principle was ever widening the scope of citizenship and civic responsibility.

The population of Illinois in 1860 was 1,711,951, of which number 7,628 were Negroes. The total population of Douglas County one year after it set up its own governmental housekeeping was 7,140 persons, of which number 31 were Negroes.² The population of the state as given by the census of 1930 was 7,630,654, of which number 328,972 were Negroes, 5,635,727 were urban, and 1,994,927 were rural. The population of Douglas County in 1930 was 17,914, which was a decrease of 1,690 from the census of 1920. Of the 17,914 inhabitants, 17,674 were of native white parentage. There were 27 Negroes, and 212 white persons of foreign birth. Of the foreign born 121 were from Germany, 17 from England, 8 from France, 6 from Sweden, and 60 from other countries. A singular item of the census of 1930 was that there was one Indian in the county; whereas, in 1859 when the county was organized there were none.³

The last census showed that of the total population, 9,923 lived in cities and villages, and 8,677 on farms. In 1920 the rural and urban populations were about evenly distributed with 9,860 persons living in cities and villages, and 9,744 living on farms. By 1930 there were 623 fewer persons living in the county's cities and villages than in 1920, and 1,067 fewer on farms.⁴

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1. Supervisors' Record, v. A, p. 22.
 2. Population of the United States in 1860, The Eighth Census (Washington, 1864).
 3. Population, Fiftieth Census of the United States: 1930 (Washington, 1932), v. III, part I, p. 657.
 4. Ibid.

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With the organization of townships came developments in public improvements and enterprises, and in civic affairs, all stimulated by local self-government and community interest. The most populous township was Tuscola, of which the county seat by the same name is also the largest municipality in the county, having 2,569 of the township's 3,619 inhabitants. The origin of the name of the county seat and township is obscure. Various claims have been made as to the derivation, but none has been generally accepted. Those who hold that Tuscola is of Indian origin cite that in Michigan there is a county by the same name, and it should, therefore, be of Indian origin, they maintain. Tuscola was an election precinct before it was a township. It is the largest township in the county, being 62.39 square miles or 39,934.94 acres in area. The land was originally almost exclusively prairie, with little timber somewhat scattered and distributed. What was once a treeless waste is now a land of well cultivated fields with many artificial groves of walnut and maple, thrifty orchards, and osage hedges to intersect the view.

Tuscola, the county seat, is located at the intersection of the Baltimore and Ohio, the Illinois Central, and the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroads. It is twenty-two miles south of Champaign and thirty-six miles east of Decatur. The city charter was granted March 11, 1859, but the election at which the electorate voted for and against the incorporation was not held until October 11, 1859. The vote for incorporation was 12, and opposed 2.¹

Arcola Township was named by E. Hewitt, the first Illinois Central Railroad agent at the station called Okaw; the name was provided as a substitute for Okaw when a post office was established there, because there was already one by that name in the state. This was in 1858, a year before the county was organized. Later, when the county was divided into townships, the township which included the post office and the Arcola election precinct retained that name. The township is 53.8 square miles or 34,643.26 acres in area. It is traversed north and south by the Illinois Central Railroad, and east and west by the Vandalia which is a part of the Pennsylvania Railroad system. The Vandalia line originally was an enterprise of some citizens of Arcola and the vicinity. It was at first the Paris and Decatur Railroad, and upon extension to Terre Haute, Indiana, the name of that city was added to it. It was afterwards called the Illinois Midland Railway until it became the Vandalia.

Arcola and other township bonds amounting to \$165,000 were authorized by a vote of the people to aid in the construction of the railroad. The amount voted by Arcola Township was \$100,000. The legality of the procedure was questioned, both as to the calling of the election and voting on the bonds. The courts held the bond issue to be illegal; consequently the bonds were never redeemed by the township, though the railroad reaped the

1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 129,130,148.

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benefit of them. They were to bear ten percent interest, payable semi-annually, and were not to be delivered until one mile of the railroad bed had been graded and track laid in the township; also they were to be transferred in no greater sums than \$6,000 per mile of constructed railroad. This was done to influence other townships, through which the road would pass, to similar action. The election for the purpose of voting on the bond issue was held June 24, 1869. The result was 324 votes for and one against the issue.¹

The bonds having been authorized, on August 16, 1870, John Ray was directed to procure them. They were made to bear interest from May 1, 1871, payable at the Security Bank in New York. John J. Henry was appointed to act as trustee to receive, hold, and pay out the bonds, and the signing of them was ratified by the town auditors April 3, 1871. The first train passed over the road October 25, 1872. A few residents of Arcola who were not known to be above their fellows in financial ability were the promoters of the enterprise; they built the road and controlled the franchises until it was later consolidated with other railroad lines into a system which grew into a powerful modern railroad corporation.²

The promotion and construction of the old Indiana & Illinois Central Railroad through Tuscola, and east and west through the county, followed much the same methods as were used in promoting the Illinois Midland Railway. This road was originally a branch of the Indianapolis, Bloomington and Western Railroad. Its charter was dated December 30, 1852. In 1876 the company was reorganized as the Indianapolis, Decatur and Springfield Railroad. It is now a part of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad system. At the outset Douglas County purchased 2,459 shares of the capital stock of the company. Certificates of shares were issued to the county. These at par value were worth \$122,950. They were finally purchased by private parties in Indianapolis for \$20,000.³ In 1869 a Tuscola railroad subscription was made in aid of this road to the amount of \$20,000 by a vote of the people, and bonds were issued, payable in fourteen years with ten percent interest. These bonds were refunded in 1881 at six percent interest.⁴

The panic of 1872-73 brought to an end the chicanery and wild promotion schemes for railroad construction throughout the state and nation. New lines that had been surveyed and partially graded were abandoned and the railroad business generally received a sudden check; collapse succeeded collapse, yet defeat was not confessed at the time. Scores of companies were forced into bankruptcy courts, producing a search for more freight and passenger business.

1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 194, 195.

2. Ibid., Part III, p. 195.

3. Niles, Douglas County, p. 16.

4. Battle and Niles, op. cit., Part III, p. 133.

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The fever of railroad construction and the prospects of amassing fortunes by promoters had much to do with the development of the state as well as the whole country, especially west of the Allegheny Mountains. Transportation facilities and accessibility to markets were essential to the development of the agricultural, mineral, and timber resources of the entire country. Industrial and commercial growth was accelerated thereby, even though the methods used to promote enterprises often were questionable when not reprehensible. Thus the course of economic, political, and social history has been influenced and oftentimes determined.

The scandals of railroad delinquency that characterized the period permeated the township government of Douglas County. It was the period of the rise of the American business peerage, and what happened in Arcola and Tuscola townships was a part of the American scene as it unfolded after the Civil War and on to the close of the century.

So widespread had become the abuse of the credibility and gullibility of the people that when the Constitution of 1870 was adopted, it contained a section that had been separately submitted to the vote of the people, prohibiting counties, cities, towns, townships, or other municipalities from subscribing to the capital stock of any railroad or private corporation, or from making a donation to or loaning its credit in aid of such corporation.¹ It will be observed that the approval of the section making this prohibition was given previous to some of the transactions completing the bond issue of Arcola Township and other townships in behalf of the old Paris and Decatur Railroad, now the Vandalia. The constitutional prohibition was not retroactive, but there were legal technicalities which caused the courts to decide that the bond issue was unlawful. The extent to which the townships of county units of the state administration entered into schemes for industrial expansion was little more than typical of the times. The fact that it was a practice that demanded statewide action to protect the earnings of the people, and to prevent abuse by shrewd promoters of the taxing power of even township units, revealed the extent to which popular government required an enlightened citizenry to be successful.

Camargo Township is the oldest settled portion of Douglas County; John A. Richman settled there in 1829. He was a West Virginian by birth and when a very old man still lived much as a pioneer, girding himself with gun and tomahawk, according to tradition, and hunting in the timber along the Okaw River.

The township got its name from the city of Camargo, Mexico, and was suggested by Col. J. B. McCown, who served from this county in the war with Mexico. When this political subdivision was under the jurisdiction of Coles County it was called the Albany precinct. It contains thirty-

1. Constitution of 1870, Art. XIV, sec. 2.

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five government sections of land, or 38.23 square miles (24,443.72 acres). The population of the township was 2,914 persons in 1930. Villa Grove is the largest municipality in the township, having a population of 2,001, according to the census of 1930. Camargo is a village with a population of 271. The original town was laid out in 1836 by Isaac Moss and was called New Salem. The name was later changed to New Albany, by which name the voting precinct was called until the township was formed. It is the oldest village in the county, antedating Tuscola, Arcola, Newman, and "time honored Bourbon."

Camargo village is on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, which road was not in operation at the time the county seat was selected. However, Camargo served as the shiretown pro tem until Tuscola already located on a railroad, was chosen. It was in Camargo that much of the activity of organizing the county was centered.

Villa Grove is of later origin and is located at the junction of the two lines of the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railway that enter the county, one from Danville and the other from Chicago. It is a division point and as such is called a "railroad town."

Of the township's population only 519 live in the country, and 2,272 live in Villa Grove and Camargo. It is traversed from north to south by the Embarrass River. Drainage districts were early established for the purpose of transforming the swamps of the township into tillable land. Many fine tracts of timber of the original wooded river sections remain. Because of the scarcity of timber in the early days of the county, the Camargo woodland was especially valuable, first for fuel, and then for building and fence material. When transportation of fencing, coal, and lumber from elsewhere became possible, the timber land depreciated in value and the prairie, which at first was much cheaper, became more valuable.¹

Garrett Township was named in honor of Islam Garrett, an early settler. It lies in the northwest corner of the county, and is 51.83 square miles or 33,171.95 acres in area. It had in 1930 a population of 1,587, with one village, Atwood, on the county line between Douglas and Piatt counties. The portion of Atwood within Garrett Township has a population of 270 and that section within Piatt County has 413. The village is located on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The township is drained by the Kaskaskia River. Most of the land required ditching and tiling to make it tillable and redeem it from the swampy nature in which it was found when the county was first settled. As in the case of other townships, the property owners voted to subscribe stock for the construction of railroads. There were instances in which early railroad builders

1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 291,292.

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constructed the roadbeds across lands without previously securing the right of way. Suits at law followed these invasions of property rights.

Bourbon Township, lying in the southwest corner of the county, was named after the hamlet of Bourbon, which had been christened for Bourbon County, Kentucky. It is 42.5 square miles or 27,232.38 acres in area. It had at the time of the last census a population of 2,095, and one village, Arthur, with a population of 725 within the township and 636 within Moultrie County, bordering Douglas County on the west. The rural population of the township was 734. The hamlets of Bourbon, Chesterville, Fillmore, and Bagdad are community centers with church, school, and small trade interests. The township is crossed by the old Illinois Midland Railway, now the Vandalia, and the Chicago and Eastern Illinois, which was the last railroad constructed in the county. The village of Arthur is at the junction of these two lines. Bourbon Township citizens participated in the railroad construction schemes by a bond issue of \$35,000. The election and the issuance of these bonds were set aside by the courts as illegal and the bonds were never paid, though they were sold.¹

Sargent Township was named for one of the oldest settlers, Snowden Sargent, a livestock farmer. It is 46.45 square miles or 29,728.94 acres in area. According to the last census, it had a population of 878, all of whom lived on farms, there being no villages within the township. Two thirds of the land area is prairie. The first land entries were made in 1830. Douglas County's fifth railroad line crosses the extreme southeast corner of this township, which itself lies in the southeast corner of the county. In passing from Edgar County through to Coles County, the New York, Chicago, and St. Louis Railroad, sometimes called the Clover Leaf Line, cuts across the tip of the township with 3,182 feet of track on which to pay taxes to Douglas County. There is no station of this line in the township.

Bowdre Township, at first named Deer Creek, contains 48.24 square miles or 30,875.82 acres. A drainage district was established as early as 1883 for the purpose of converting swamps into tillable land. In 1930 it had a population of 1,454, of which number 424 lived in the village of Hindsboro. The hamlet of Bridgeport was originally known as Hugo, and was the site of a trading store at the time of the disappearance of the Indians from the region.

Newman Township derived its name from that of the village of Newman, which was named for B. Newman, when the settlement was laid out in 1857.² The township lies in the northeast part of the county, and contains 40.38 square miles or 25,848.38 acres. It had a population in 1930, of 1,728, of which 1,054 lived in Newman, an incorporated city.

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1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 269.
 2. Ibid., p. 229.

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In 1871, about three years after the county was divided into townships, an effort was made to set up a new township, to be called Ridge, from the north end of Newman Township and a tier of sections off the south part of Champaign County. The idea of acquiring land from the county to the north with which to enlarge Douglas County had strong support for many years. The attempt to create the new township failed and has not been revived since the formation of Murdock Township in 1882 out of Camargo and Newman townships. The Baltimore and Ohio cuts across the township from east to west.

Murdock Township, the last formed, as previously noted, had in 1930 a population of 790. It contains 30.65 square miles or 19,617.61 acres. It is almost altogether prairie land, consisting of beautiful rolling acres that are easily drained, the surface being of the character of high table land, which lies on an average from sixteen to twenty-four feet above the bottoms of the nearest natural drains.¹ There are no villages in the township. There are two hamlets, Fairland and Murdock, the latter being a station on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

Before Douglas County was organized, the Illinois Central Railroad was chartered by the General Assembly in 1851, the Congress of the United States having granted land to the state for the purpose of insuring the construction of a railroad from Cairo, at the mouth of the Ohio River, to Galena and the northwestern angle of the state with a branch extending to Chicago on Lake Michigan.² The line was completed through the county in 1855. United States Senator Stephen A. Douglas, among others, has been given generous credit for engineering the political and legislative phases of this then gigantic transportation enterprise. Judge Sidney Breese (later United States Senator) from Bond County was probably the originator of the plan for a central railroad in Illinois that would open up transportation by rail from Lake Michigan to the Gulf of Mexico. Senator Douglas insisted that the Federal donation of land should be to the state and not to a private company.³

The building and operation of the railroad had a marked effect on opening up for settlement the lands of the Grand Prairie in Douglas County. From that time on the territory of this county had an economic and political influence in the state. The history of the Illinois Central Railroad was so interwoven with the growth of the state for several decades that it constituted a large portion of its internal development. It was begun in 1837 and later abandoned after general collapses of economic conditions that engulfed the country. A part of the line was sub-

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1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 320.
 2. William K. Ackerman, Illinois Central Railroad, Historical Sketch (Chicago: Fergus Printing Company, 1890), p. 77. Hereafter cited as Illinois Central Railroad.
 3. *Ibid.*, p. 11.

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sequently revived by legislation, but the enterprise lacked vitality until Congress in 1850, under the persistent urging of Senators Breese and Douglas and others, granted to the state a tract of 2,595,000 acres through the central part of the state in aid of the railroad's construction.

The charter provided for a right of way 200 feet wide through the public lands of the state from the southern terminus of the Illinois and Michigan Canal to a point at or near the junction of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, and for branches from the main line to Galena and Chicago. The railroad was granted every alternate section of land, designated by even numbers, for six miles on either side of the road and its branches.¹

The lands within the grant were taken from the market and when replaced for sale two years later, had doubled in price selling at a minimum of \$2.50 per acre. It was a period of land speculation. Speculators are said to have held in 1856 more than 15,000,000 acres in the state. In the group was practically every prominent politician in Illinois with the exception of Abraham Lincoln. They held about all the land that had been in the public domain, excepting that portion owned by the Illinois Central Railroad and the state. One of the representatives of the class of land gamblers, in which, besides politicians, were small business men and eastern capitalists, was Stephen A. Douglas, himself.² "This large group of persons interested in speculation as a side issue comprised, perhaps, the most influential part of the population (of Illinois). Frequently as in the case of Douglas, their land interests were subordinate to their political ambitions. This did not mean, however, that they did not seek special legislation for the benefit of their lands. It was they who sought to carry the Illinois Central and other railroads through out-of-the-way places."³

Senator Douglas, though acting on a small scale, secured as much as 100 acres (some of which was submerged) on the Chicago lake front; subsequently he purchased 2,964 acres of land around Lake Calumet, paying \$2.50 an acre. In 1855 he added to his land investments by contracting with the Illinois Central at the price of \$10 for 4,610 acres.⁴

What was happening in Douglas County in connection with railroads was but a part of the whole history of railroad development throughout

1. Niles, Douglas County, p. 15,16.

2. Paul W. Gates, The Illinois Central Railroad and its Colonization Work (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1934), p. 110-13.

3. *Ibid.*, p. 113.

4. *Ibid.*, p. 112. Gates, the author, cites references such as "Register of Receipts," Chicago District, no. 4, 1846-55; Tract Books, S. A. O.; v. 262, Land and Tax Commissioner's office, Central Station, and other sources.

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the nation, its promotions, its schemes for getting rich quickly, and its land speculations that were encouraged by pet legislative measures to carry railroads much beyond their usefulness at the time. In Douglas County, S. B. Blackwell constructed a comfortable sleeping apartment on wheels, and with several yoke of oxen and a number of farm hands, moved from point to point on the old Illinois Midland Railway (Vandalia), putting in a week's work here and there promoting the enterprise until the showing on paper enabled the directors to borrow considerable funds in Europe.¹

In the case of the Illinois Central the Federal government received from the company the privilege of transporting free of charge during the period of the Civil War all supplies forwarded to the sick and wounded in the hospitals of the South. Also, the government, according to the grant, was to have the use of the railroad and branches as a "public highway," free from toll, or other charge, the transportation of any property or troops of the United States; but the railroad company should not be obliged to furnish equipment and men to handle the business. It was mutually agreed that the government should be entitled to a reduction of thirty-three and one-third percent from the regular tariff rates on all transportation conducted for their account, this percentage representing the value of the use of the highway or roadbed.²

A condition made in the grant was that the road was to be completed within ten years, and the company was required by an act of the General Assembly to pay into the State Treasury five percent of the gross earnings of the road for all future time, and also three fourths of one percent of stock and assets, or enough to make at least seven percent of the gross earnings as a perpetual revenue to the state. According to its charter the railroad is free from local, municipal, and state taxation. The state charter to the company was given a ratification clause in the Constitution of 1870.³

At the time of the construction of the railroad the credit of the state was so low that it could not have secured sufficient capital to construct the road itself, which was one of the purposes of the Internal Improvement Bill of 1837.⁴ The new line was to run through undeveloped territory such as Douglas County where there was no likelihood of immediate profits from traffic. The building of the road would open this territory to settlement and would thereby increase the amount of

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1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 89.
 2. Ackerman, Illinois Central Railroad, p. 19.
 3. Niles, History of Douglas County, p. 16; Constitution of 1870, Art. XIV, sec. 2.
 4. Gates, The Illinois Central Railroad and Its Colonization Work, p. 22,23,64.

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taxable property. The increased revenue anticipated from taxes and from seven percent of the gross earnings of the railroad was expected to re-establish the credit of the state on a stable basis.¹

Another measure of the Federal and state governments that had a determining effect on the economic and political growth of Douglas County was the Swamp Land Act of September 28, 1850, which granted to the states the overflowed or swamp lands within their borders.² By this act 1,457,399 acres were given to the state.³ Illinois, in turn, granted these lands to the counties in which they were located "for the purpose of constructing the necessary levees and drains to reclaim the same, and the balance of said lands . . . shall be distributed in each county, equally, among the townships thereof, for the purposes of education, or the same may be applied to the construction of roads and bridges, or to such purposes as may be deemed expedient."⁴

The act required that the lands should be valued at not less than ten cents per acre; many of these lands were actually sold at that price, and the proceeds were used for various purposes, though generally for schools. Very little use was made of them to carry out the original purpose of the grant, to assist in draining the low areas.⁵

In 1855, by an act of Congress, purchasers of swamp and overflowed lands prior to the passage of the act were to be indemnified by the state, to which the purchase money was to be paid over by the Federal government. The state was then authorized to locate a like quantity of any public lands, subject to entry, at \$1.25 per acre or less and have patents issued therefor. Douglas County filed its claim and proofs for some 6,000 acres of swamp land. County authorities selected the swamp lands for which indemnity was to be paid.⁶

The county court entered into an agreement with Daniel G. Burr of Edgar County and William Ricketts of Coles County to procure for the County of Douglas the amount of money to which the county was entitled for the swamp lands which were disposed of by the United States subsequent to the passage of the act granting swamp lands to the several states.

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1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 65.
 2. 9 U.S.Stat.L. 519,520.
 3. Annual Report, Commissioner of the General Land Office (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1925), p. 48.
 4. L.1852, p. 178-86.
 5. Gates, The Illinois Central Railroad and Its Colonization Work, p. 102. There was a great deal of shady work in connection with the selection of these lands, particularly in Illinois. See Annual Report, Commissioners of the General Land Office, 1886, p. 42.
 6. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 18,19.

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Ricketts and Burr were to be allowed forty percent of all money for swamp lands that they might be able to obtain for the county.¹

Details are lacking as to the progress of Ricketts and Burr, but on September 16, 1868, the committee on swamp lands reported the lands to have a value of \$7.00 per acre.² On December 7 of the same year the lands were ordered sold and the funds from the sale were to be applied to public improvements.³ The lands were offered for sale June 8, 1869, but there were no bidders.⁴ Two parcels were offered for sale December 7, 1869, and this time \$13 an acre was paid for one tract, but there were no bidders for the other.⁵ The day after the sale the board of supervisors ordered \$500 to be applied to the purchase of abstract books costing \$1,075.⁶ The money was used neither for draining low areas in the county, nor for schools, as was intended by the Federal grant.

By March 6, 1863, a total of \$2,851.22 had been received from the Federal government as indemnification money for swamp lands sold by the government previous to the Swamp Land Act. Of this amount a balance of \$1,610.82 was placed on deposit in the First National Bank of Tuscola.⁷

Early in the history of the county attention was given to the laying out and construction of roads. This was one of the first concerns of the county court when it directed the formation of twenty-three road districts and appointed supervisors for them. In 1868 the board of supervisors appointed themselves a committee of the whole on the assessment of a town and bridge tax in the several townships. This was one of the first actions of the board after the organization of the county under the township form of government. The bridge tax levied on the townships separately per \$100 of taxable property was as follows: Camargo, 10 cents; Newman, 7 cents; Sargent, none; Tuscola, 2 cents; Bourbon, 6 cents; Garrett, 10 cents; Arcola, 3 cents; Bowdre, none. Murdock Township at the time was not formed.⁸

Through the years increased attention was given to roads and bridges. In 1908 the county tax levy called for \$2,500 for roads and bridges; again in 1918 the levy provided for \$16,000. In 1938 the total levy was for \$23,550.⁹ The county court records show the action taken in 1861 for the building of bridges across the Embarrass River at Camargo, and

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1. County Commissioners' Court Record, v. 1, p. 44.
 2. Supervisors' Record, v. A, p. 14.
 3. Ibid., p. 28.
 4. Ibid., p. 49.
 5. Ibid., p. 65.
 6. Ibid., p. 70, 71.
 7. Ibid., v. B, p. 31, 61, 62.
 8. Ibid., v. A, p. 17.
 9. Ibid., v. E, p. 117, 543; v. H, p. 204.

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across the Okaw on the Springfield road, the latter to cost \$546. Between 1861 and 1866 there were thirty separate actions taken by the county court leading to the bridging of rivers and streams in Douglas County. In 1870 the board of supervisors repealed a rule that required the county to pay two thirds and the township one third of the cost of any bridge in the county costing more than \$150. The new rule called for the county to pay the entire cost of all bridges costing \$200 or more.¹

On the minutes of county court record, March term, 1861, there appeared the following order which illustrates the serious attention given at the time to the matter of road building and providing construction equipment; "Ordered that Samuel B. Logan be and is hereby appointed commissioner to superintend the making of 30 road scrapers to be paid out of the revenue arising from the road tax. Said scrapers to be ready for delivery by the first of June next. Said commissioner will advertise a reasonable length of time not less than 12 days or more than 20 days for the letting of the making and furnishing said scrapers to the lowest responsible bidder. The scrapers to be of good substantial scoop, the sides to be of good sound oak and not brash and of straight grain full one and one-half inches thick. The edge to be of steel ten inches wide, well ironed with one-half inch iron good and substantial, staples and hooks for hitching to be two inches wide and the ordinary length."²

Communication by way of roads and highways was extremely difficult in the early days when Douglas County was yet a part of other counties. The area did not lie in the vicinity of the main roads which were built between the east and west in the days of colonizing the Illinois country. The most important road through the section in the pioneering years was the old "Springfield Trace"; it stretched in nearly a direct line east and west through the town of Arcola. It was this road that the settlers used when going to their markets. However, the road was known for its almost impassable condition for a large part of the year. The farmers would join their teams of horses or yokes of oxen and one settler would go to market to procure necessities for a whole neighborhood.

To overcome this situation, farmers permitted themselves to be conscripted to do a certain number of days' work on the roads. This accounts for the intensive road and bridge building program that was undertaken when the county was organized in 1859. Today (1939) there are 829.1 miles of roadways of all kinds in the county. Of this mileage, 643.6 are township roads, and of the township classification, 514 miles are oiled highways; 91.7 miles of earth roads; 7.3 miles paved, and 30.6 miles graveled roads. There are 44.6 miles of regular Federal-aid highways, of which 42.6 miles are paved, and 2 miles graveled. There are

1. Supervisors' Record, v. A, p. 85.

2. County Court Record, v. 1, p. 92.

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22.9 miles of state bond issue highways, all paved; 118 miles of state-aid (county) roads, of which 37.4 miles are paved; 14.2 miles graveled; 65.4 miles oiled, and 1 mile earth roads.¹

The growth of fiscal affairs of the county is seen in the comparison of budgets through the years, and in the amount of taxes collected. The county collector reported \$26,795.29 in 1868.² The total receipts for 1938 were \$167,966.51.³ Data from the collector's books for Tuscola Township, beginning with 1859 and continuing up to and including 1937, show the growth of the cost of government and its draft on property owners. The tract of land selected was 80 acres, giving in cents the rate of assessment per acre for the same acres over a period of 79 years. The following data were taken to show the rise and fall of taxation through the years, yet revealing the steady increase in cost of government as the economic and cultural levels of the people rose.

John Crocker paid \$4.80 in taxes at the rate of 6 cents an acre in 1859; he paid \$8.80 at the rate of 11 cents an acre in 1864. In 1867 Floyd Graham paid \$12.59 in taxes, or 15 59/100 cents an acre on the same 80 acres. Two years later Graham paid at the rate of 46 13/20 cents an acre. The land was owned by Crawford and Crawford from 1874 to 1890, during which time the rate fluctuated between 23 and 36 73/80 cents an acre. During the panic year of 1872, C. Dougherty paid taxes at the rate of 47 11/20 cents an acre. From 1891 to 1910, the rate did not rise in any year to the amount Dougherty had paid. In 1910 the rate paid by W. H. Hackett was 45 51/80 cents an acre; in 1911, J. J. Shoppe paid \$50.79 or 63 39/80 cents an acre. By 1914 the rate increased to 85 11/80 cents an acre; and in 1915, Shoppe paid \$1.48 9/10 per acre. The rate fell to half as much until 1919 when it rose to \$1.18 3/20 an acre. Then there was a steady increase until 1926 when Shoppe paid \$177.13 in taxes, or \$2.21 33/80 per acre. From 1926 to 1929 the rate fluctuated under \$2.00 an acre until it reached \$2.03 77/80 an acre in 1930. There were fluctuating decreases in the rate from then until 1937 when Shoppe's taxes were \$121.43, or \$1.51 63/80 per acre.⁴

Within the limits of a tax rate of 6 cents and \$2.21 23/80 an acre is the history of the economic development of Douglas County, if not the United States as a whole. Herein is written in dollars and cents the course of collective enterprises in terms of civic progress, education, social service and security, health and sanitation, and public improvements.

Since the foremost industry of the county has always been and still is agriculture, the cost of government falls most heavily on the farming

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1. Rural Inventory, Highway Research (Springfield; Department of Public Works and Buildings, Division of Highways, 1939).
 2. Supervisors' Record, v. A, p. 20.
 3. Ibid., v. H, p. 204.
 4. Collector's Books for Tuscola Township, 1859-1937.

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enterprise. The total taxes from 175 miles of railroad property within the county amounted to approximately \$60,000 in 1938. Of this property the Illinois Central Railroad with 45 miles of right of way pays no taxes, being exempt under the state charter of the road.¹

The number of acres of the total land area of the county that are in farms at any given time varies from year to year; in 1920, 96 percent of the 266,880 acres was in farms; in 1925 the percentage was 87; in 1930 it was 92.5, and in 1935 it was 94.3 or 251,634 acres.² The number of farms declined from 1,630 in 1920 to 1,490 in 1935, though there was an increase of 34 farms from 1930 to 1935.³ The value of farm property, including land and buildings, declined from \$36,788,079 in 1930 to \$25,621,996 in 1935.⁴ This decline was the result of a general deflation in property values, rather than a depreciation of farm property during the period.

The average number of acres per farm in 1935 was 169, while the average for the state as a whole was 137 acres. Since 1920 there has been a tendency toward increasing the acreage per farm in the county. In 1920 the average acreage per farm was 157; this fell to 148 in 1925, but mounted to 170 acres in 1930. The average acreage per farm for the state as a whole has remained nearly steady for the past fifteen years.⁵

Of the total number of farms in 1930, 71.3 percent were operated by tenants, 28.1 percent were owner-operated, and 0.6 percent were manager-operated. Tenants rented for cash 1.7 percent of the farms that were tenant-operated. Of the total number of tenants, 25.9 percent were related to their landlords, making the farm operation something of a family affair.⁶ Of the owner-operated farms in 1930, 58.7 percent were mortgaged, and the average mortgage debt per farm for the same year was \$9,506. For the state as a whole the percentage of owner-operated farms that were mortgaged was 41.3 percent, and the average mortgage debt per farm was \$6,182. The average mortgage debt per acre in the county was \$62, and for the state, \$51. The average taxes on land and buildings per acre in the county in 1929, was \$2.04, and for the state, \$1.15.⁷

The value of farm land per acre including buildings averaged for the county in 1930, \$149.01, and for the state as a whole, \$108.68. The

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1. See supra, page 35. Exception from taxation was in lieu of payment to the state of 7 percent of gross earnings of the company.
 2. Farm, Home and Community, Illinois (Urbana: University of Illinois, 1936), p. 2. Hereafter cited as Farm, Home and Community.
 3. Farm Census Report for Illinois (Washington: Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1935), p. 4.
 4. Ibid.
 5. Farm, Home and Community, p. 4.
 6. Ibid., p. 75.
 7. Ibid., p. 77.

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average value per acre was \$125.22 for the county, and \$83.24 for the state. The average value per farm in the county was \$25,266, and for the state, \$15,553. The average value of land per farm in the county was \$21,232, and for the state \$11,912. The average value of all farm buildings per farm in the county was \$4,034, and for the state \$3,641. The average value of farm dwellings per farm in the county was \$2,050, and for the state, \$1,803.¹

Eighteen percent of the farms of the county were given to general farming; 61.3 percent to cash grain production; 2.6 percent to crop specialties; 2.6 to dairying; 10.6 percent to animal specialties; 0.9 to poultry raising, and 1.6 to part time farming. There were no fruit and no truck farms in the county, and only 2.3 percent of the farms were named as self-sufficing; by which is meant, farms that produce an amount sufficient only for maintenance with no surplus for others. One tenth of one percent of the farms were listed as miscellaneous, or "others."²

In 1935 there were one-fifth fewer acres given to the production of corn than in 1929; approximately one half of the acreage taken out of corn production was allowed to remain idle or in fallow, and the other half was used for pasturage, hay or soy bean production. The production of wheat and oats also decreased. Of the total land in farms in 1934, 207,392 acres were given to crop production, of which 188,996 acres were harvested. At this time there were 777 acres of non-pasturing woodland in the county, and 7,839 acres of woodland in pasture.³ Of the crop land in 1929, 41.9 percent was in the production of corn; 9.3 percent in winter wheat; 21.7 percent in spring grains; 5.8 percent in hay; 5.8 percent other crops; 14 percent in pasture, and 1.5 percent idle or in fallow. The average of corn production per acre, based on ten-year average crop yields (1924-1933), was 34.9 bushels, which is the average for all Illinois. The oat yield averaged 30.3 bushels per acre, and winter wheat, 18.2 bushels. The winter wheat average was 1.8 bushels per acre higher than for the state, though the spring wheat average was 2.6 bushels under the 18.1 bushels per acre average for the state.⁴ Variations in crop production in Douglas County are noted in particular in the acreage given to the growth of winter wheat. In 1926 the acreage was 33,920, and in 1934 this fell to 19,900; spring wheat in 1919 covered 10,138 acres, but in 1934 the acreage was 500. The production of soy beans increased until 27,300 acres were given to their production in 1934; in 1922 only 3,800 acres had been so used.⁵

Data on crop production and land usage are reflected in the raising of livestock and the marketing of livestock products. With the decrease

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1. Farm, Home and Community, p. 76.
 2. Ibid., p. 72.
 3. Ibid., p. 27
 4. Ibid., p. 4.
 5. Ibid., p. 34-50.

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in the acreage used in the production of corn came a decrease in the number of hogs raised. In 1935 there were 36 percent fewer hogs raised than in 1929, and a decrease of 17 percent in the number of horses. Mules decreased 33 percent, and cattle increased 28 percent.¹ The economic status of agriculture in the whole country was reflected in the crop and livestock production of Douglas County at this time.

The major portion of farm income in 1929 was derived from crops, it being 58.6 percent of the total income; income from livestock was 23.2 percent; livestock products, 11.2 percent, and forest products, 0.1 percent. Of the farm production the operator's family used 6.9 percent of the total. This was 3.8 percent less than the percentage used by operators for the state as a whole.²

Income from other than agricultural and related interests in the county is small in comparison with counties where manufacturing, trade, and commerce flourish. In 1930 there were 16 manufacturing establishments, and the average number of wage earners in these plants then was 165. Their annual wages totaled \$226,914, and the products manufactured were valued at \$394,909.³ Employed in the wholesale and retail trade were 539 persons; in steam and street railway services, 446; in iron and metal trades, 73; in the building industry, 222; in bakeries, 50; in other manufacturing concerns, 91; and in industry not specified, 242. There were 413 persons engaged in professional and semiprofessional occupations in the county.⁴

Comparative figures on property valuations since 1859 show that the county's real estate was assessed for taxable purposes at \$1,414,797 the year that the county was organized. By 1875 the value had increased to \$4,648,070. Personal property valuation in 1859 was \$494,039, and in 1875 it was \$1,808,837. Town lots in 1859 were valued at \$36,325, and in 1875 at \$564,810. The total assessable property in the county in 1859 was valued at \$1,945,161, and in 1875 it was valued at \$7,121,717. In 1927 the assessed valuation of all property, state and locally assessed, had increased to \$26,427,000. This was the peak of valuation of the accumulated taxable wealth of the county. There was a steady annual shrinkage in the assessed valuation from 1927 to 1934; in the latter year it declined to \$18,621,000.⁵ This was the period of falling values, which was one of the general effects of the economic depression that

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1. Farm, Home and Community, p. 34-50.
 2. Ibid., p. 73.
 3. Illinois - Resources - Development & Possibilities (Chicago: Illinois Chamber of Commerce, 1930), p. 136.
 4. Population of the United States: 1930, III, Part I, p. 646.
 5. Sixteenth Annual Report of the Illinois Tax Commission, Assessment Year, 1934, p. 271.

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paralyzed industry and commerce, beginning in the late Fall of 1929. Agriculture had been affected adversely since 1923 by the causes that operated to disturb the economic equilibrium.

The value of assessable real estate in Douglas County shrank to \$14,334,990 in 1938.¹ Thus, the great body of taxable property of the county was greatly devaluated as a source of direct tax revenue; it was also depressed as the source of new wealth in the form of farm income. The price structure of farm commodities was out of line with the rising values in taxable farm property, and with the falling values after the peak of land values was reached in 1927. Market prices of farm products were falling while taxable values in land were rising, and when taxable values were falling, costs of operation and maintenance continued to be higher than the market prices of farm products.

This forced many farmers of the county to increase the use of mechanical aids in crop production in order to swell their income to meet rising costs of operation and higher taxes as the first claim on land values. The increased production further depressed market prices with the result that the low income dollar was not in parity with the high cost dollar which the farmer paid out for taxes, equipment, and improvements. The check on public expenditures to reduce the cost of government did not take place in time to relieve the farmers whose unbalanced economic status became acute several years before the general depression in the money market, in industry, and in commerce.

The values of accumulated assessable wealth are shown in the tax income of the county and the state. This income is used in part to defray the cost of government and in part for certain social developments. Steady and uninterrupted social progress in distinctly agricultural communities like Douglas County requires parity prices for balancing farm income and expenses, or the number of farm mortgages will increase, foreclosures will be frequent, and schools, libraries, hospitals, roads, and other socially owned and controlled institutions will show a decline. To halt the depression and prevent social stagnation, the national government assumed certain financial responsibility in administrative areas - townships, counties and states. This greatly increased the national debt, Douglas County's share of which, as of June 30, 1939, was \$5,990,513.82, or 41 percent of the real estate value of the county.²

The social development of Douglas County closely paralleled its economic growth. The processes of building social institutions and social forces revealed a unity between the economic well-being and the

1. Illinois Tax Commission Report, 1938.

2. Daily Statement of the United States Treasury, August 4, 1939.
The amount was computed by multiplying the per capita gross national debt by the population of the county.

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social progress and security of a community of producers. Cultural forces, social organizations, and economic and political institutions were largely inherited from the past. They depend on changed economic conditions and scientific progress for their modification, their decline, or their perpetuity. The stability of political forms of the present more and more rest on the economic health of the producers of wealth rather than the entrepreneurs and financiers of enterprise. This is in line with the growth of democratic forms in social, political, and economic organization.

The social history of the county area had its beginnings under pioneer conditions. However, when the county was organized it already had schools and churches. The frontier had moved far to the west of the Mississippi River, even beyond the Rocky Mountains, by the time railroads penetrated the Grand Prairie of what came to be Douglas County.

The Ordinance of 1787 reaffirmed the previous declaration of the Continental Congress that schools and education should be encouraged; however, the laws of the Territory of Illinois did not recognize the schools as a public function or interest. The Continental Congress in 1785 had passed an ordinance reserving the sixteenth section in all territory northwest of the Ohio River for the maintenance of public schools. Two years later "An Ordinance for the Government of the Territory of the United States, Northwest of the River Ohio," (Ordinance of 1787) asserted: "Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged."¹

The enabling act, passed by Congress, April 18, 1818, under which Illinois entered statehood, contained three conditions that were to govern the new state in the matter of public education. The first was that "section numbered sixteen in every township was granted to the state for the use of the inhabitants of such township for the use of schools." The second stipulation was that five percent of the net proceeds of the lands lying within the state, to be sold by Congress on and after the first day of January, 1819, after deducting all expenses incident to the same, were to be distributed under direction of Congress: two fifths were to be for the construction of roads leading to the state; the residue was to be appropriated by the legislature of the state for the encouragement of learning, of which one-sixth part was to be exclusively bestowed on a college or university. The third requirement was that 36 sections or one entire township, to be designated by the President of the United States, together with one already reserved for that purpose, were to be reserved for the use of a seminary of learning. Title to the land was vested in the legislature, the land to be appropriated solely to the use of this seminary.²

1. Art. 3.

2. 3 U.S.Stat.L. 428.

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These propositions were offered on condition that public lands should not be taxed for five years after sale; that grants should enjoy the same prerogative for three years after date of patent, and that the lands of non-residents should not be taxed higher than other lands. These conditions were accepted by the state convention that assembled to draft a constitution for the new commonwealth. The Constitution of 1818 was silent about schools as a public institution, although the national laws had made the state government the trustee for property interests in behalf of schools. This fact soon compelled action on the part of the General Assembly to pass laws for educational purposes.

The first General Assembly at its second session made provision for leasing the sixteenth-section lands, and provided for the protection of school land against timber thieving. It chartered the Madison Academy at Edwardsville, the Washington Academy at Carlyle and the Academy at Belleville. In 1825 the free school law was enacted. The legislature of 1826 changed the free school feature of the law, requiring the vote of the district on the amount of funds to be raised by taxation, and provided that only those consenting could be taxed.

The struggle for carrying out in Illinois the objectives stated in the Ordinance of 1787, was arduous and not without setbacks and temporary defeats for the advocates of the free school system. The ultimate realization of the program for schools, that was materially provided for by Congress, did not come about for more than forty years after Illinois became a state. The subscription method of supporting schools provided that each school district should have 18 students subscribed. The subscribing voters, and not the trustees, employed the teacher. The General Assembly of 1829 took away the two percent of the state revenue for the support of public schools.¹ This practically reduced education to a subscription basis. It remained that way until 1855 when the free public school, tax supported, was established.²

The laws of 1831 allowed school lands to be sold by petition of three fourths of the voters of a district.³ In 1833 a law was enacted providing for paying teachers from the income from these lands. The growth in population, the infusion of people from the east whose notion of free schools was liberal, and the increase in taxable property, brought about the changes which gave the people of Douglas County when it was organized a firm foundation for a public school system.⁴

Long before the state could, or did, give the scattered communities aid in the problem of education, the early settlers erected schoolhouses

1. R.L.1829, p. 149.

2. L.1855, p. 51.

3. L.1831, p. 173.

4. Samuel Willard, Biennial Report, 1832-84 (Springfield: Illinois Department of Instruction, 1884), p. 107-14.

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and maintained public instruction by subscription. Neighborhoods turned out and built the school cabin, and each patron paid toward the expense of the teacher's wages in proportion to the number of children sent to the school. Money was scarce and payment was often a hog, a cow, lumber, fence rails, or anything that could be exchanged for money or other articles of use to the teacher. From this humble and pioneer beginning of schools in the county came the graded schools and high schools with their modern equipment of school libraries, laboratories, athletic grounds, and gymnasiums.¹

There is some indefiniteness as to the first school in the county under the free public school law of 1855, but buildings were erected in the town of Tuscola and in Newman Township in 1858 when the area was yet a part of Coles County.² Each was a one-story frame structure and cost \$500. At least two other school buildings were in use by April 28, 1859, for, when the first session of the county court was held for the newly formed Douglas County, these other two were selected by the county court as voting places in their respective precincts.³ They were located in Deer Creek precinct, "near Levi Osborn's," and in Sargent precinct, "near Andrew Guinn's." The first schoolhouse in Tuscola was succeeded by a substantial two-story brick structure that cost \$6,000. The average attendance of pupils at this school in 1869-70 was 448. The indebtedness of the school district was given as \$20,000 for which the district had issued bonds due in three, five, and seven years with ten percent interest, and the bonds were sold at 92½ cents on the dollar.⁴

The first report of the school commissioner on March 5, 1860, to the county court was as follows: "An exhibit of the school fund to the county court of Douglas County, Illinois, from the organization of said county to the present date - Sale of school lands: Amount of interest state school fund, \$170.86; amount of fines from justices of the peace, \$29.00; amount of funds on hand, \$199.86. (Signed) S. S. Irwin, school commissioner."⁵

Although the initiative taken by Douglas County citizens in school matters showed a lively interest in education, the compensation allowed teachers was such as to call from the county historian in 1884 the following comment on the monetary reward for teaching as a public service: "As a money-making profession in this part of the state, teaching is far from occupying a place in the front rank, and promotion, at its best, offers few inducements above a living salary. As regards a comfortable competency, so often the reward that waits on those who labor, this is

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1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 94,97-99.
 2. Ibid., p. 156,245.
 3. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 1.
 4. Battle and Niles, op. cit., Part III, p. 157,158.
 5. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 30.

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about the only profession that says to its votaries 'Bid farewell to hope, all ye who enter here.'" The chronicler then said: "Better be a nigger minstrel, leastwise a writer of comic histories, and

'Tickle the public, and make it grin,
The more you tickle, the more you'll win;
Teach the public, you'll never get rich,
But live like a beggar and die in a ditch.'

The public teachers everywhere are what public opinion makes them; they are forced by circumstances to be able to impart ten times the schooling the average pupil requires, who, receiving the ornaments, astonishes his parents and guardians, and himself, with the vast number of different studies he is able to glibly give the names of."¹

Douglas County was far enough from the so-called "slave counties" of Illinois to be off the route of the "underground railroad," yet there were a few Negroes in the county in the early days. Despite their presence, their education did not become a matter of official county business until after the Emancipation Proclamation, and the adoption of the fourteenth amendment to the constitution. On December 7, 1869, the board of supervisors resolved "that \$35 be appropriated for the colored people of Tuscola to enable them to keep a three months school,"² Almost a year later, December 6, 1870, the supervisors made "a donation of \$80 for school purposes for colored children between the ages of 6 and 21 years, to be apportioned according to the number of said children in various localities in the county."³

The first woman to be county superintendent of schools was Nora Smith, who filed a quarterly report, March 8, 1887, "of services and visitation of schools amounting to \$361."⁴ The board of supervisors appointed another woman superintendent of schools on March 9, 1899, when Miss Blanche Carraway was selected to fill the vacancy created by the death of Thomas M. Wells.⁵

From the humble beginning of two schools reported in 1858, the county school system has grown into one with 97 school districts as of 1937. There were 101 school buildings, one of which was not in use, and 80 were one-room country schoolhouses. The total enrollment for elementary and secondary schools was 4,184, which was 91 percent of the boys and girls of school age in the county. The elementary school enrollment was 3,090, or 74 percent of those of elementary school age. The high or secondary school

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1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 246.
 2. Supervisors' Record, v. A, p. 68.
 3. Ibid., p. 129.
 4. Ibid., v. B, p. 238.
 5. Ibid., v. D, p. 176.

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enrollment was 1,094, or 26 percent of those of high school age in the county.¹ There was a decline of 288 in the total school enrollment of the county from 1934 to 1937. The decrease in the number of students was largely in the elementary grades, being 273; the decrease in number of high school students was 15. Of the total student enrollment there were 281 duplications, making the net enrollment 3,903 for the county. The seating capacity of the school buildings was for 5,553 students. There were 178 high school graduates for the year 1937, and 127 high school tuition students. With the exception of one private kindergarten, there were no private schools or teachers in the county. A total of 208 teachers were employed, of whom 79 were rural school teachers; 63 were elementary teachers, not rural; 41 were high school teachers; 9 were elementary school principals; 2 were superintendents, and 8 were supervisors and teachers of special high school courses.²

The average number of months per year the schools were in session was 8.1. There were libraries in 95 of the 100 operating schools; and the total number of volumes was 32,979 in 1937.³ The average yearly attendance of students from Douglas County at the University of Illinois for the ten-year period, 1923-1932, was 68. The percentage of illiteracy in the county in 1930 was 0.8 percent.⁴

The average annual salary for all teachers was \$988.31. For men the average salary was \$1,562.28, and for women it was \$825.33. There were 19 of the 153 elementary teachers whose wages were from \$400 to \$600 each; 74 elementary teachers who received from \$600 to \$800 each; 49 who received from \$800 to \$1,000; 4 who received from \$1,000 to \$1,200; 2 who received from \$1,200 to \$1,400; 2 who received from \$1,400 to \$1,600; 1 who received from \$1,600 to \$1,800; 1 who received from \$2,000 to \$2,200, and 1 who received from \$3,000 to \$4,000.⁵ Of the 55 high school teachers, 3 received annually less than \$1,000 as salary; 13 received from \$1,000 to \$1,200; 21 received from \$1,200 to \$1,400, and the remainder received from \$1,400 to \$2,700 annually.

Of the total number of teachers in 1937, 46 had been employed 1 year in the same district; 39 had taught 2 years; 39 had taught 3 years; 14 had taught 4 years, and 4 had taught 20 years or more. Only 2 had taught 17 years, and 1 had taught 16 years. The remainder had taught from 5 to 14 years in the same districts.⁶ Of the total number of teachers 68 had a

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1. Statistical Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, State of Illinois, 1937, p. 4,5,8,38,112. Hereafter cited as Report, Superintendent Public Instruction, 1937.
 2. Report, Superintendent Public Instruction, 1937, p. 10,11,14,16,38.
 3. Ibid., p. 38.
 4. Farm, Home and Community.
 5. Report, Superintendent Public Instruction, 1937, p. 20,21,28.
 6. Ibid., p. 24,25,30,31.

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bachelor's degree, and 7 had a master's degree. There were 23 teachers with no training above four-year high school, 25 with one year of such training. There were 61 teachers with two years of training above four-year high school, and 62 with four years.¹

School property, including sites and buildings, in the county was valued at \$1,129,700; school equipment, including furniture, library, apparatus, etc., was valued at \$126,905. The total value of all school property was \$1,256,605. The total amount of taxes levied August, 1936, for all school purposes was \$305,074. The amount of bonded indebtedness on school property was \$184,500 as of June 30, 1937.²

In the social development of Illinois counties, schools were the outgrowth of a complex of economic, political, and religious forces, some of which were local and others state and nationwide. Douglas County as a unit of state government had little to do with the development of the free school system, because the county was late in settlement. When the struggle for the free school law was waged, the settlements of the county were small and much scattered. As an organized county, it was the recipient of the benefits of a struggle already waged and won. It is not too much to say that one of the compelling factors in the educational phase of the county's social development was the church. Especially interested in and actively engaged in the agitation for the three-fold development of education, the college, the academy, and the common school, were the missionary pastors who represented the cultural and religious life of the New England states.

Religious teachers or preachers encouraged settlers to live where they could avail themselves of institutions of self-improvement. The influence of the Sabbath school was felt in the agitation for the public school. Some who lightly pass over the weightier forces that brought about the public school system are given to crediting the Sabbath school as its forerunner and parent. It is true, however, that the church on the frontier was the bearer of the social forces and sometimes the spokesman for the economic and political interests that were behind the public school movement. The church was oftentimes the only social institution in these isolated communities and scattered county settlements.

Among the earliest religious activities in the county was that of the Disciples of Christ, sometimes known as the Church of Christ or Christian Church. This religious group was congregational in government and because of its democratic polity it fitted acceptably into the structure of agricultural community life. While it was militant in doctrinal matters and met with stubborn opposition from other Protestant denominational rivals, it was indigenous to the American scene, having no European religious forebears. This gave it an influence in certain communities where the

1. Report, Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1937, p. 18.

2. Ibid., p. 40, 41.

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early settlers were not immigrants from states where the older religious bodies of the East had established the form and doctrine of church life. The early clergy of the denomination were for the most part uneducated in so far as formal training was concerned, and this status gave the movement for a return to the forms and doctrines of primitive Christianity a certain prestige on the prairies of Illinois. The impact of the denomination on the development of social forms in Illinois, particularly in certain counties, was paralleled with the influence of some of the major religious groups that were older and possessed of greater traditional prestige.

In 1832 Joseph Hosteller came to West Okaw and established a Disciples church there. This was about two miles west of Lovington. The church became the mother church for the surrounding country, and accounted for the numerous churches of this denomination in central Illinois. Lovington was ten miles west of Douglas County, and the missionary work of this group spread to the county in the early day.¹ The Sunday school, or Bible school as the elders of this denomination called it, was a feature of the church work which fitted well into the developing social needs of the county.

The Rural Retreat church, near Hindsboro, was organized in 1857 by W. F. Black. The meetings were first held in the Wells, later known as the Wyeth, schoolhouse. In 1867 a meetinghouse was built. In 1863 this congregation mothered two new churches, one at Hindsboro and the other at Bushton. In 1863 the Disciples church in Tuscola was organized. The life of rural churches has been somewhat jeopardized by changing economic conditions among the farmers. The denomination has six communions within the county. These churches are located in Tuscola, Arcola, Camargo, Hindsboro, Newman, and Villa Grove.

The Methodist Episcopal church was one of the earliest religious groups to organize in the county, and is yet one of the county's strongest religious organizations. It has a historical background that embodies in it the best religious traditions of early America. The denomination had five strong churches in 1938 with a membership of 2,145.² The first M. E. church built in the county was in the village of Camargo; it was a frame structure and cost about \$500. This was eventually replaced with a brick building.³

Missionaries of the Baptist church came early into the territory later to become Douglas County. Daniel Parker, a fiery Baptist preacher

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1. Nathaniel S. Haynes, History of the Disciples of Christ in Illinois, 1819-1914 (Cincinnati: Standard Publishing Company, 1915), p. 149.
 2. Journal and Year Book, Illinois Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church for 1938 (Decatur), p. 495.
 3. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 294.

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from Georgia, known as "the anti-missionary man," preached extensively in the eastern part of Illinois. He cautioned people never to contribute to missionary societies. By a curious quirk of the imagination Parker himself did missionary work by organizing new churches, but he justified it by not taking a collection for that kind of work. He wrote a pamphlet known as the "Two Seed" pamphlet, in which he sought to show that there are two distinct races of people: the saved and the unsaved, and that the unsaved were predestined to the Evil One and were not worth preaching to - they could not be benefitted. Parker's theology and work divided the Baptist church in Illinois; some of his missionary work spread into Douglas County territory.¹ The denomination has churches in Arcola, Tuscola, Bourbon, and Villa Grove.²

There are two Presbyterian churches in the county, one at Tuscola and the other at Arcola. The former was organized in 1858, and the latter in 1839 when the county was a part of Coles County. It was at first called the "Okaw Church," and was founded with eleven members. Due to the lack of a quorum in the new Presbytery, it was dissolved in 1846. In 1854 it was reorganized at Fillmore and moved into Douglas County at Arcola during a series of special meetings, when eleven more members joined the church.³

As early as 1853 the Catholic church maintained a mission at Arcola; the Reverend Thomas Ryan at Baldwinville, Edgar County, served the Catholic families until 1865 when the Reverend Thomas Mangan came from Paris, Illinois, to Arcola to serve as pastor there and at Tuscola. Father Mangan decided that these Catholic groups should have a church building, and in 1874 a small frame building in Arcola was dedicated to St. John the Baptist. He succeeded in establishing a mission at Humbolt, six miles to the south, and built a church there also. This Humbolt group disbanded in 1900 and united with the Arcola church. The Catholic church of Douglas County now has two parishes and two missions; the parishes are in Tuscola and Arcola; the missions are in Tuscola and Villa Grove.⁴ Thus was established in the very heart of the Grand Prairie the church that came to America in the colonial period, bearing with it the religious traditions of centuries. It made a rich contribution to the social structure of the settlement and constitutional periods of the American states.

The Evangelical Lutheran church was established ten miles west of Tuscola in 1875; but as early as 1857 ministers of the denomination had

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1. E. P. Brand, Illinois Baptists, A History (Bloomington: Pantagraph Printing Co., 1930), p. 93.
 2. Illinois Baptist Annual (Chicago: American Baptist Publication Society, 1938).
 3. A. T. Norton, History of the Presbyterian Church of Illinois (St. Louis: W. S. Bryan, 1879), p. 20, 507.
 4. J. J. Thompson, Diocese of Springfield, Illinois, 1853-1928 (Springfield, 1928), p. 335, 342, 343.

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served the Germans of the county areas. The members of the country congregation dissolved their organization and joined with the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Tuscola, which was organized in 1897.¹

The Episcopal Church has two congregations in the county, one at Tuscola and the other at Arcola. The work of the denomination in the county probably began about 1863 when the Rev. E. J. Puryt of Logansport, Indiana, began active missionary services in Vermilion County and nearby communities. The Episcopalians built a church in Arcola which was destroyed in a windstorm and was rebuilt in 1866. In 1882 the building was moved to another location which was in the original town of Okaw. It was deeded to the bishop of the diocese. The Episcopal Church of Tuscola was consecrated in 1882 by the Right Reverend Seymore, Bishop of Springfield.

Some religious groups that had beginnings in the social development of the county have disappeared or merged their interests with other organizations having similar or related theologies. Among these were the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Society of Friends (Quaker). The former established a congregation and built a church in Newman Township in 1869, costing about \$3,500. The church was known as "The Church on the Ridge." The Reverend Jonathan Cooley was the organizer and first pastor of the congregation. The Society of Friends maintained a meeting house in Tuscola Township, where from fifteen to twenty Quakers met at the time of their stated meetings. This society was in existence until about the turn of the century.²

Among the other denominations that have congregations in the county are the Congregational, the Church of God, the Church of the Nazarene, the United Brethren, and the African Methodist Episcopal. In 1864 members of the Amish Mennonite religious society came to Bourbon Township to settle on land. They were of German extraction and resembled the Society of Friends (Quakers) in plainness of attire, in integrity, and in an almost total exemption from pauperism. They have no churches or meeting houses, but assemble at each other's dwellings as the spirit moves them. They are a vigorous agricultural people and have contributed much toward the development of the farming interests of the county as well as to the stability of its general economic life.³

The influence of social institutions is of wider import than their cultural significance, they are of value in maintaining a stable social and political order. Basic social bodies are integrated with the econom-

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1. Statistical year book of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and Other States, 1938 (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1939), p. 41, 44.
 2. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 235.
 3. Ibid., p. 272.

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ic and political forms of community life. The Douglas County Farm Bureau as an active farm organization is one of the social institutions that serve as integrating forces in economic, legislative, cultural, and educational interests of this distinctively agricultural county. Of the county's approximately 1,490 farmers, about one third or 500, are members of the Farm Bureau, which is associated with the Illinois Agricultural Association, and through this latter organization the bureau is affiliated with the American Farm Bureau Federation. It is a local section of a nationwide farm organization that constitutes a powerful force in the country's economic and political life. There is a county farm adviser who is employed by the board of directors of the bureau to cooperate with the University of Illinois College of Agriculture in its program of extension, education, and farm studies, and to work with farm leaders in establishing such organizations as 4-H Clubs and Dairy Herd Improvement Associations. The work of the farm adviser is encouraged, authorized, and financially supported by the United States Department of Agriculture and by the State of Illinois through the College of Agriculture of the university.¹ The Farm Bureau encourages, promotes, and fosters cooperative organizations for the mutual benefit of its members.

Early agricultural societies that were formed in the county served their day and time. They were formed to stimulate interest in better farming methods, to spread scientific information concerning stockbreeding, horticulture, agronomy, agriculture economics and engineering, dairying, and rural sociology. These objectives have been incorporated in the program of the Farm Bureau, which was preceded by numerous societies and associations for the promotion of agriculture. They were examples of the close relationship that exists between social, political, and economic institutions.

As a county unit Douglas did not participate in the war with Mexico; but the Civil War was a landmark in its development, coming as it did so soon after the county was organized and placed on its own fiscal and social responsibility. The political events which preceded the war were full of meaning to the citizens of the young county. Schools and churches had been functioning sufficiently long to become centers of social action and sometimes of political influence in the matter of support of the issues of the last days of the "abolition movement." Through them the public was encouraged to give expression to opinions and to take action on behalf of the welfare of the state and nation. Although the county had been named in honor of Stephen A. Douglas, it loyally supported Abraham Lincoln, his uncompromising opponent.

In the presidential contest of 1860 niceties of political distinctions were lost sight of, and although the change of front required was too sudden and radical to secure the support of all in order to distin-

1. L.1915, Joint Resolutions, p. 732.

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guish intelligently between various political issues, yet Douglas County presented but one sentiment, and that for support of the Union. After the surrender of Fort Sumter, April 13, 1861, when President Lincoln issued a call for volunteers to defend the Union, Douglas County responded with patriotic enthusiasm. Volunteering for service was spirited. Many who had taken the lead in organizing the new county were found in the ranks of leaders for defense of the country. Among these were E. McCarty and J. B. McCown.¹

In the second year of the war the county took official action to aid enlistments. The county court passed an order for the support of families of those who had hitherto enlisted from Douglas County. The sum of \$2,000 was appropriated for the purpose, and justices of the peace were directed to act in concert with the court by acting promptly in the matter of reporting to the clerk of the court the names of all volunteers for military service within their respective precincts. A regular tax was subsequently levied for the purpose of aiding the families of enlisted men, and in December, 1864, Gilbert Summe was appointed agent, whose duty it was to visit all such families and ascertain their condition, and supply their wants by giving orders to grocers and merchants for such supplies as were needed.²

The tax reached one and a quarter mills on the dollar for this purpose, and the method of disbursing it was changed so as to pay each wife or mother of volunteers one dollar per week, and fifty cents per week for each child under ten years of age. No bounties were offered by the county to stimulate enlistments. There was no necessity for this expenditure, the county historians say, for the county met promptly all demands upon it, and its quota was always filled without resort to draft.³ On the twenty-sixth of December, 1863, "the county court met to consider the propriety of making an appropriation for, and offering a bounty to volunteers to fill up the decimated regiments of Illinois Volunteers and to avoid a draft on the fifth of January next." The record of the court stated that "the court failed to act for lack of proper petitions."⁴

The enrollment showed that in 1863 there were 1,491 men subject to military duty, and 1,803 in 1864, and 1,846 in January, 1865. The quota for the county in 1861 was 199 men; in 1862, 136 men; and under the calls of February 1 and March 14, 1864, for an aggregate of 700,000 men, Douglas County's quota was 336, and under the call of July 18, 1864, for 500,000, it was 281, making a total of 952 men as the quota of the county prior to December 31, 1864. Up to this period the enlistment had reached 1,008, making an excess of 65 men over the quota. Under the last call, that of

1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 101, 102.

2. Ibid., p. 102, 103.

3. Ibid., p. 103.

4. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 235.

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December 31, 1865, the quota was 225, and the enlistments 167. The grand total of quotas for the war was 1,177, and the total of credits was 1,175, or a deficit of 2 men.¹

Company D of the Twenty-first Illinois Infantry had as its captain James E. Callaway of Tuscola, who became lieutenant colonel. The first colonel of the regiment was Ulysses Simpson Grant, afterwards General Grant and President of the United States. The first of Douglas County's volunteers went out in Company D. J. B. McCown of Camargo, was colonel of the Sixty-third Regiment in which Dr. J. W. McKinney was surgeon. Both McCown and McKinney had been leaders in the movement to organize the county. The honor roll of the county's service men in the Civil War contained the names of many commissioned and non-commissioned officers, musicians, recruits, and reenlisted men who participated in the historic battles and campaigns of a war that caused the whole world to look on aghast. Nations figuratively held their breath while the United States was being born anew. Douglas County's part in the holocaust of blood, emotions, and principles was worthy of the tenacity and independence of its farm population.² Succeeding generations have said its worthy dead did not die in vain.

The political and social attitude of the county's population during the Civil War period seems to have been in line with the following tale, the authority for which is not based on primary source material:

A man named Robert Mattison settled sometime previous to 1840 in what became Bowdre Township. He brought with him from Kentucky twelve or fifteen slaves. Mattison soon learned that they would be free should he hold them a year within the state; he, therefore, planned to return with them to Kentucky. However, a party of determined "abolitionists" put in a very decided objection to Mattison's plan to take the Negroes back into a slave state. The objectors resolved that the slaves should be captured and sent to Liberia instead of being returned to slavery. Mattison returned to Kentucky but not with all the slaves, for some had been freed and sent to Liberia. But one, Simeon Wilmot, refused to go either to Liberia or Kentucky. He remained in Douglas County, where he lived until long after the Civil War. In the trial which grew out of the case, Abraham Lincoln and O. B. Ficklin were employed as opposing counsel. Ficklin was a large land owner in Douglas County at one time, but disposed of part of his farms and retired to Charlestown in Coles County. He was a member of the General Assembly from 1838 to 1842, and subsequently served in Congress from 1842 to 1850.³

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1. Battle and Niles, County of Douglas, Part III, p. 103.
 2. Ibid., p. 103-27.
 3. An Illustrated Historical Atlas of Douglas County, Illinois (W. R. Brink and Company, 1875), p. 13; Battle and Niles, op. cit., Part III, p. 306.

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The part taken by the county in the Spanish-American War, and in the World War was determined by the Federal government and was integrated with the military plan of action which required uniformity of procedure on the part of all state administrative units. Increased centralized planning and wider observance of Federal authority grew out of the new concept of republican government that developed in the years following the Civil War. The participation of a unit of state government in international conflicts was in the very nature of the circumstances one of conformity to a formal plan of action. This meant that what Douglas County did was, in general, much the same as what counties in all other states did. None the less, Douglas County did its part in the wars in which the country has been engaged since the county was organized; and its veterans have maintained service and patriotic organizations for the mutual benefit of their members.

In all organized society based on an individual economy, the public assistance and care given to the physically and mentally handicapped, the indigent, the homeless and helpless aged, and orphans constitute a service that requires taxes. In contrast to the standard of care and administrative methods in use in 1859, the help given to the less fortunate members of society today is very great. In the elimination of causes that lead to the necessity for such public assistance practically no progress has been registered since the widespread introduction of labor saving machinery and production improvements on farms, in industry, and in commerce.¹ The social lag has been as conspicuous as the advance in productive capacity. This has produced certain contradictions in social organization that press for speeding up social invention to halt grave maladjustments. These manifestations have become as acute in agricultural communities as in strictly industrial sections. They are to be seen particularly in the status of schools, churches, country homes, and in the problems of rural youth.²

The program for economic and social reconstruction since 1932 has taken cognizance of the problems raised by the contradictions and maladjustments in society due to vast changes in the processes of production of wealth, in transportation, and in communication. The factors involved were examined by the Committee on Recent Social Trends appointed in 1929 by President Herbert Hoover.³ These factors are active in all the problems of public assistance and public health in Douglas County. A close study of the methods of tax-supported public help in the county since 1859 indicates the pattern generally used throughout the state from decade to decade.

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1. Recent Social Trends, Report of the President's Research Committee on Social Trends (One v. ed.; New York: Whittlesey House, 1932), p. xxviii.
 2. *Ibid.*, p. xxviii, xxix, lxx, lxxiv, 122-66.
 3. *Ibid.*, p. xi-xcv.

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Many of the services now rendered by social workers and maintained by the county and the state were once the responsibility of the family. The family still gives some degree of protection to its members, but much public assistance is occasioned by the inability of many families to meet their needs. The church has often stepped in where the family was inadequate, and has maintained orphanages, hospitals, homes for the aged and the like. The local government has always made some provision for relief out of local taxes but private effort was for generations unorganized; beggars sought aid where they could and the rich acted as the spirit moved them. The need for assistance in time became too great for private charity to supply, and organized public aid gradually supplanted almsgiving for the most part, though philanthropy increased with the amassing of great fortunes.¹

When the county was organized the poor were cared for through a precinct officer, appointed by the county court. Local responsibility was recognized as the basis for such assistance. The poor person was cared for by some family in the county who contracted to provide food, shelter and clothing; the contract often was let to the lowest bidder. Farming out the paupers, as the system was known, was changed nine years after the county was organized. In December, 1867, the southeast quarter of section 36, township 16 north, range 8 east, was purchased from J. M. Maris as a poor farm, at the cost of about \$2,285.77.² This farm was let for one year to the person who would give the most for use of the farm, and would board and take care of the county's paupers for the least amount per week each. This did not include clothing nor medical attendance.

A special levy of five cents on \$100 was ordered for the purchase of the poor farm.³ Under date of January 13, 1868, the records of the county court show that the poor farm was rented to George Scott for \$3.11 an acre. The amount paid Scott for boarding the inmates was \$2.87 per week.⁴ There were but three paupers on the farm for the first few months, a large number still being cared for in the old way. In September, 1870, a report showed the total number admitted since March 1, 1868, to be 37; the total number discharged was 32; the number of births was two, and the number of deaths, 3, which left 4 inmates at the time of the report.⁵

Considerable confusion is shown to have existed over the poor-farm system of caring for the county's indigent. On December 8, 1869, the

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1. Recent Social Trends, p. liv.
 2. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 488.
 3. Ibid., p. 483.
 4. Ibid., p. 504.
 5. Supervisors' Record, v. A, p. 110.

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farm was rerented to Scott at \$2.50 an acre, Scott to furnish board and washing to each pauper for \$3.50 a week.¹ On September 17, of the same year the farm had been ordered sold by the board of supervisors.² But the farm was not sold, for after Scott had operated it, it was again rented to the highest bidder September 13, 1871, at \$3.38 1/3 per acre, and the board of the inmates was set at \$2.70 per week. There were only three inmates on the farm at this time.³ The whole plan for conducting the poor farm as an agency of public assistance was changed on January 3, 1883, when a contract was entered with John Lewis for five years dating from March 1, 1883, at a cash salary of \$600 a year. The terms provided that Lewis was to furnish one good team and implements to cultivate forty acres of corn, wheat, and oats, and to cut the hay and harvest the corn at his own expense, to superintend and manage the almshouse, the county providing furniture for the entire care of the paupers, and supplies for both paupers and the superintendent's family.⁴

To ensure a complete record of the administration of the farm and care of the poor, the supervisors ordered a register for the superintendent's use. In this was to be kept the names, nativity, age, and date of admission of all inmates of the almshouse; also date of discharge and all other information concerning inmates that may by law or by action of the board be required.⁵

On December 4, 1883, the board of supervisors ordered that an "additional pest house be built at a cost not to exceed \$500."⁶ An order had been issued December 14, 1877, permitting the county physician to discharge inmates when he judged they were "not proper persons for said almshouse."⁷ The supervisors on July 15, 1890, ordered a barn built on the poor farm at a cost not to exceed \$325.⁸

By December 5, 1893, both the system of conducting the poor farm and the expense of keeping it in proper order were fully justified, for on that day the report of the superintendent of the farm showed a profit of \$263.69.⁹ From this time on the balance between income and expenses was a fluctuating one. By 1919 the cost of caring for the county's indigents had risen to \$12,500,¹⁰ and by 1927 to \$19,500;¹¹ but by 1932 it

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1. Supervisors' Record, v. A, p. 71.
 2. Ibid., p. 57.
 3. Ibid., p. 156, 159, 161.
 4. Battle and Niles, History of Douglas County, Part III, p. 71, 72.
 5. Supervisors' Record, v. B, p. 76.
 6. Ibid., p. 91.
 7. Ibid., v. A, p. 384.
 8. Ibid., v. B, p. 477.
 9. Ibid., v. C, p. 184.
 10. Ibid., v. F, p. 74.
 11. Ibid., p. 560.

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had dropped to \$3,000.¹ In 1934 the Federal and state governments assumed responsibility for relief of the unemployed.² This did not eliminate the necessity for the poor farm, but it relieved the county of an increased burden of indigency due to widespread unemployment. The growth of wider social responsibility for public assistance was slow; but ultimately there was recognition that the whole economy of the country should share in the cost since the causes of the necessity were not always individual nor local. From 1930 to 1934 state emergency relief measures were required to meet the growing need for public assistance in Douglas County as well as in all other counties of the state. The poor farm continued to serve as a home for the destitute who could not be relieved by measures of rehabilitation and emergency assistance; it now functions strictly for the improvident and the permanently homeless. As an institution it was not designed to carry the load induced by a general economic collapse.

Miscellaneous items taken from the records of the county commissioners' court, and of the board of supervisors, give sidelights on the status of public assistance in the early history of the county. An order for \$27 for keeping Peter Lawrence, a pauper, 9 weeks was issued by the county court September 6, 1859.³ An agreement was recorded June 4, 1861, between Dr. A. T. Marshall and James Ewing, Robert Hopkins and John Murdock to treat Michael Haul, a pauper, one year at \$20 or at that rate if he should die within the year.⁴ On September 3, 1861, an order was issued for \$25.02 for clothing furnished John Vinson, an insane person.⁵ On June 3, 1862, an order was issued for payment of \$5 for a coffin for E. Wood, deceased, a pauper.⁶ On December 7, 1868, the board of supervisors ordered that ten cents per week be allowed to tobacco users at the poor farm for tobacco.⁷ On January 13, 1868, Dr. N. W. Chapman was given the contract for medical care of inmates of the poor farm for one year for \$80.⁸ Supervisors' records show that in 1938, \$500 was appropriated for the care of transient paupers.

The record of appropriations for public aid made by the board of county supervisors, based on the revenue obtained from the tax levy reported by the finance committee, shows the growth of need through the years when the taxable wealth of the county was steadily increasing. The superintendent of the county poor farm reported March 8, 1905, that the expenditures for the previous year had been \$1,112.04, which balanced

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1. Supervisors' Record, v. G, p. 253.
 2. Ibid., p. 418.
 3. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 15.
 4. Ibid., p. 107.
 5. Ibid., p. 115.
 6. Ibid., p. 153.
 7. Supervisors' Record, v. A, p. 28.
 8. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 504.

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with the amount received.¹ The report of the finance committee of the board reported a levy for \$47,000 for the year ensuing (1906), of which sum \$20,500 was for the care of paupers.² In 1906 the finance committee reported a levy for \$40,000 for the ensuing year, of which sum \$20,500 was for paupers.³ In 1907 the committee asked for a levy amounting to \$44,500, of which sum \$11,000 was for the care of paupers.⁴ The records show the following levy amounts and the sums appropriated for the aid of the destitute for the years indicated: 1908, total levy - \$43,000, for paupers, \$20,500; 1909, total levy - \$43,200, for paupers \$20,500; 1910, total levy - \$43,200, for paupers \$20,500; 1913, total levy - \$82,500, for paupers \$15,000; 1914, total levy - \$74,000, for paupers \$15,000; 1915, total levy - \$64,000, for paupers \$12,500; 1916, total levy - \$72,970, for paupers \$12,500; 1917, total levy - \$73,630, for paupers \$12,500, and 1918, total levy - \$70,590, for paupers \$12,500.⁵

The above data indicate both a social advance of Douglas County people in the provision made for the care of the less fortunate of society and an increase in the necessity for public assistance during years of marked agricultural prosperity in a rich agricultural county of a wealthy agricultural state.

The number of persons in Douglas County on emergency relief in 1935 were 986, of whom 631 were heads of families. One half of these persons were classified as unskilled workers, including 326 farm laborers, and 36 workers in the railway transportation industry, and 68 servants. There were 89 semi-skilled workers, including 31 chauffeurs.⁶ A comparison of the reports of the superintendent of the poor farm over a long period of years shows that there was an average from 10 to 15 inmates annually in the county home. The general effect of unemployment due to the depression years (1929 to 1938) on institutions of public aid can be measured in terms of the increase in the number of needy, which jumped from an average of less than 15 to 986.

The special needs of the blind were recognized by the state in 1903, when the blind pension was inaugurated.⁷ The first blind pension in Douglas County was granted in 1904 when each qualified blind pension-

1. Supervisors' Record, v. D, p. 565.

2. Ibid., p. 592.

3. Ibid., v. E, p. 15.

4. Ibid., p. 88.

5. Supervisors' Record, v. E, p. 118, 192, 321, 322, 356, 402, 457, 523, 524, 566, 568.

6. Emergency Relief Administration and Works Progress Administration for Illinois, Division of Finance, Report (Springfield, 1935).

7. L.1903, p. 138.

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er received from the county treasurer fifty cents per day payable quarterly. In 1927 the pension was increased to \$365 per year, payable quarterly by the county treasurer.¹ From 1924 to 1939 there were a total of 202 blind pensioners in the county. The amount paid out during the period was \$35,891, with the largest amount during the years 1938 to 1939, or \$17,782.

Special provision was made in 1913 for indigent mothers of families, when the General Assembly enacted the mothers' pension law.² The law provided that a mother may receive support for herself and family to the amount of \$50 a month. From 1913 to 1930 in Douglas County, pensions amounting to \$146,936 were paid to 153 mothers. The board of supervisors allocated \$3,000 in 1913 for mothers' pensions. In 1914, \$3,000 was again appropriated, and in 1915, \$4,000, which amount was annually set aside until 1918 when it was increased to \$5,000.³

It was during the years of the inauguration of the pensions for the blind and indigent mothers of families that the supervisors' records began to show large sums assigned for food and laundry for prisoners held in the county jail. In 1915, \$4,000 was scheduled for food, \$300 for transportation, and \$400 for laundry for prisoners. In 1916, \$4,000 was again appropriated for the food of prisoners, and in 1917 the same sums were scheduled for the care of prisoners as in 1915. In 1918, the amount for their transportation was increased to \$500.⁴

The Douglas County department of public welfare was established as the result of the enactment in 1937 of a state law which discontinued the county commission of public welfare and provided that a county department of public welfare should succeed it.⁵ Social concern in behalf of destitute and incapacitated aged persons became sufficiently crystalized to provide them with a higher status of living than was customarily their lot when they were "boarded out" from the courthouse or sent to the poor farm. The increased sense of social responsibility for maintaining the self-respect of the worthy aged, who were no longer able to care for themselves or continue as productive members of society, followed close on the granting of blind and mothers' pensions. In the administration of old age assistance as provided for by the Federal Social Security Act and state laws, the county department of public welfare is subject to the rules and regulations of the state department.⁶ In addition to having charge of and developing plans for the administration of old age assistance, the county superintendent serves

1. L.1927, p. 202.

2. L.1913, p. 127.

3. Supervisors' Record, v. E, p. 321,322,356,402,457,523,524,566,568.

4. Ibid., p. 402,457,523,524,566-68.

5. See Department of Public Welfare, this Inventory, p. 220.

6. Ibid.

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as the agent and executive officer of the state department in the administration of all forms of public assistance administered by that department. Thus, old age pensions, as the assistance is sometimes called, in Douglas County are under charge of the county superintendent of public welfare. The report for the period of time the assistance has been operative in the county has not been made available.

Through the years of normal and sometimes prosperous growth of the county, public health services were provided by part-time employment of private health agencies. In times of acute economic crises, attended by social breakdown, the need for special health agencies demanded institutions that were specially set apart for public assistance. With increased complexity of modern life came increased health hazards. Institutional care and training of the handicapped, such as cripples, the deaf, and the blind were inaugurated by the state government. Among the handicapped requiring state institutions for their treatment and care are the mentally ill and the feeble-minded, or mentally deficient. Douglas County utilizes state hospitals for the insane, the Lincoln school for the mentally deficient, the Dixon state hospital for the epileptic, and the Jacksonville schools for the deaf and the blind.

Medical service for destitute persons and families was early provided by the county court and later by the board of supervisors. The county physician exercised certain duties in the matter of admitting persons to and discharging them from the poor farm. In 1872 the fees of the county physician were fixed at the amount a physician would charge for similar services rendered to persons not in the public's care. In 1903 Dr. John Ewing was appointed by the board of supervisors as examiner of the blind. This was at the time when the blind pension law became operative.

The Douglas County hospital was purchased by the board of supervisors in 1934.¹ Under the state law the county was allowed to maintain a county hospital for sick persons.² In 1919 the board appropriated \$3,600 for the support and maintenance of the Sarah A. Jarman Memorial Hospital, a private institution.³ Again in 1920, an appropriation of \$400 per month was made for the support and maintenance of this hospital.⁴ This amount was again granted by the board in 1921.⁵ This support was repeated until 1930 when it was discontinued.⁶ It was again given in March, 1932,⁷ but stopped the following June.⁸ In

1. Supervisors' Record, v. G, p. 372, 375, 428, 441.

2. L.1911, p. 246.

3. Supervisors' Record, v. F, p. 19.

4. Ibid., p. 114.

5. Ibid., p. 175.

6. Ibid., v. G, p. 146.

7. Ibid., p. 227.

8. Ibid., p. 240.

December of the same year the appropriation was reinstated, but this time the amount was raised to \$500 per month for three months.¹

At the general election in 1932, a vote was taken on whether the board of supervisors should contribute to the support and maintenance of the hospital in an amount equal to the sum of one-half mill on all taxable property of the county. The result of the vote was that the board was authorized to continue the financial support of the hospital; in return, the board was allowed the use of the hospital for the care and treatment of the county patients. The supervisors then allowed the hospital \$750 per month until it was finally purchased.² In 1933 the supervisors adopted a formal resolution which recited the solvent condition of the hospital, and the approval of the voters of the county as to appropriations for maintaining the institution. Also, the board stated that the local physicians promised they would use the hospital in their practice with pay patients.

A tuberculosis sanitarium board was established by the board of supervisors October 29, 1919, in accordance with the state law enacted in 1909.³ In 1916 the board voted for levying a tax for the tuberculosis sanitarium fund. The report on March 1, 1920, of the Douglas County Tuberculosis Association showed disbursements of \$1,678.35, and a balance of \$857.52, making a total of receipts: \$2,535.87.⁴ The county does not maintain a tuberculosis sanitarium, but supports the care and treatment of Douglas County patients in sanitariums of other counties. In 1932 the cost of supporting patients in the Macon County Tuberculosis Sanitarium and in other county sanitariums was \$2,000; in 1938-39 the cost was \$3,563.45.⁵

Douglas County employs a nurse as an agent of public health service. This nursing service is conducted in cooperation with the State Department of Public Welfare which gives advice and assistance when called upon to do so. The service extends to visitation of child and adult patients of the county who are not financially able to obtain health services from private sources.⁶

Thus the society of Douglas County passed from stage to stage in its development of social services and in cultural evolution, all of which was reflected in the press as an agency of communication and education. The founding of a newspaper marks a particular stage in the development of a community. When society passes beyond the early struggle

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1. Supervisors' Record, v. G, p. 267.
 2. Ibid., p. 285.
 3. L.1909, p. 162.
 4. Supervisors' Record, v. F, p. 80,101.
 5. Ibid., v. G, p. 252; v. H, p. 193.
 6. L.1931, p. 732.

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for simple existence, an ambition to know and to be known abroad takes possession of the people, and the press comes in to serve in the double purpose of telling outsiders about the community and to widen the news horizons of the local citizens.

Douglas County was kept in leading strings as a part of Coles County until its first newspaper was founded in Tuscola in the year of the county's organization. This paper, the Tuscola Press, was short-lived, and was succeeded by the Douglas County Shield, which in turn was succeeded by the Union. The following are the names of the newspapers established in the county from the time of the appearance of the Union: The Saturday Journal (1864) and the Douglas County Review (1875) of Tuscola; The Arcola Record (1866) and the Arcola Herald (1885), the two consolidated as the Arcola-Record-Herald (1905), with which the Arcolian was merged in 1929; the Villa Grove News (1907); the Hindsboro News (1895), and the Newman Independent (1873). The Arthur Graphic (1887) and the Arthur Clarion (1905), both published in the Moultrie County sections of Arthur which is located on the boundary of the two counties, were consolidated as the Arthur Graphic-Clarion in 1905.

The advertising function of these newspapers makes them as much economic and political institutions as they are educational and social. The political and economic functions of the press add impetus to their life and without which, in a county community, their existence is a precarious one.

Douglas County's history is a record that embraces the activities and ambitions of a whole people rather than being the story of the lives of a few captains of industry and commerce, or of a few heroes and heroines whose records of valiant services are a substitute for deeds of the county's humbler citizens. The institutions of the county are not merely the shadows of the county's prominent citizens, but are the substance of the contribution made by all. There are, however, the names of some whom the populace delight to honor in tribute to their achievements as individuals. Among these are the leaders of the movement to organize the county as a separate unit of state administration; their names have been interwoven with this historical sketch.

Along with these pioneers of settlement and of county organization was Joseph ("Uncle Joe") G. Cannon, who though born in North Carolina in 1836, lived in Tuscola for more than eighteen years and was the county's first state's attorney. Cannon's first noted public activity was when he took part in the movement to incorporate Tuscola.¹ In 1861 he defeated Ward H. Lamon, brother of the law partner of Abraham Lincoln, for the office of state's attorney of the twenty-seventh judicial dis-

1. County Court Record, v. 1, p. 18.

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trict, which position he retained until 1868. On April 20, 1870, Cannon was one with others who presented to the board of supervisors a resolution which "provided for the subscription by the county of \$80,000 in shares of capital stock of the Indiana and Illinois Central Railroad Company, as authorized by an election held July 15, 1869, to secure a railroad." The resolution was adopted.¹

The future speaker of the House of Representatives while a resident of Tuscola, married Pamela Reed, a rural school teacher. While still living in the county, Cannon was elected to Congress as a representative from the eleventh congressional district which was then composed of Douglas, Coles, Champaign, Macon, Vermilion, and Piatt counties. He became the speaker of the House of Representatives from 1903 to 1911, during which time he was known as "Czar" Cannon. and "Watchdog of the Treasury." He was a picturesque and interesting personality; he wore a cropped beard, broadbrimmed hat and was rarely without a cigar in his mouth. A Tuscola cigar factory had a standing order to supply him with 500 cigars a month.

While serving as state's attorney for the twenty-seventh judicial district, of which Douglas County was a part, Cannon removed a theft charge against Lincoln's stepmother. He believed the charge had been trumped up for political purposes. After he was elected to Congress, Mr. Cannon moved to Danville in Vermillion County where his spectacular political career came to a close, and with which city his political record is best identified.

Dr. David Hanson, veteran of the Spanish-American War and World War, was a Douglas County citizen. Dr. Hanson was chosen by the Northwestern University Alumni Association as the man who best exemplified the idealistic spirit of the campus. A ten-ton boulder and a bronze tablet placed on the campus were dedicated in his honor. Dr. Hanson was killed in action in the World War at St. Etienne while attempting to rescue a fellow officer. He was an officer in the 142nd Infantry, and was buried in the American cemetery in the Argonne Forest, but the body was later brought back to the United States and reburied in 1921 in the Cartwright cemetery two miles east of Garrett in Douglas County. The French government placed the Croix de Guerre on the memorial boulder on the Northwestern University campus.

Malden Jones, a native of Lee County, Virginia, came to the vicinity of Bourbon before Douglas County was organized. Mr. Jones was elected sheriff of Coles County of which Douglas was a part and was afterwards the first member of the General Assembly elected from Douglas County. He served as state senator for four years and was a candidate for United States senator in 1880, but was defeated by only

1. Supervisors' Record, v. A, p. 92-93.

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a few votes. When he came to Coles County he owned a pony and had \$40 in money. He later owned more than 1,500 acres of land in Douglas County and built one of the finest residences in Bourbon Township.

The portrait painting of Governor Richard Oglesby which hangs in the Macon County courtroom was the work of Douglas County's honored artist, R. E. Gruelle of Arcola. Among the art works for which Gruelle is famous are the paintings which illustrate the poems of James Whitcomb Riley. "The Ole Swimmin' Hole" was a scene on the "Okaw" of Douglas County. "When the Frost is on the Punkin" is a homely sketch from the Grand Prairie of Douglas County.

Colonel John Cofer, pioneer postmaster and legislator of Arcola, introduced broomcorn in Douglas County and organized a broom factory in partnership with a man named Shirely. The industry was the basis of agricultural stability for many years after the hardships of the Civil War period. At one time one-fourth of the 50,000 tons of brush produced annually in the United States was grown in Douglas County.

A review of the principle factors that make for material progress, political stability, and social security of a county like Douglas, will show that it has passed through several crises. Though they were of an economic and material nature, they seriously affected the political and social development of the county. Time only will tell the full story of the outcome of the present crisis. However, the economic deterioration of agriculture in the country as a whole has had far reaching effects on farm life which have been aggravated by the advance made in the use of labor-saving farm equipment. A hopeful aspect of the serious implication is that the Douglas County farmer has a long line of traditions which make him a thorough-going and self-reliant individual. His forebears survived times equally bad for them; and it is the temper of the farmer of today to emulate his ancestors.

Historically speaking, Douglas County presents the development of an average Illinois agricultural county. It does not belong to the group of marginal farm counties that have entered a state of economic and social blight, nor does it belong to the upper group where the counties may be said to be in a state of affluence due to the richness of agricultural production supplemented by industries with considerable taxable wealth.

Douglas County lies in the cash grain farming district of Illinois, and the producers of wealth there especially have been affected by the abnormal social economy forced on a highly individualistic industry which cannot support a high degree of indigency and dependency for long. The high percentage of farms with mortgages, and the increasing tendency of farm consolidations, the decrease in county population, and the growth of rural dependency must eventually produce a different standard of rural culture unless the decay of farm life is halted.

The deterioration revealed in the factors of dependency, the low pay for school teachers, the small percentage of farm income used by the farmers themselves in their maintenance of a living standard - which

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is lower than the average for the state - would be far more menacing if it were not that Douglas County people are sturdy fighters against the inroads of decay. What the future has in store for them as a unit depends not only on their will and understanding of their own problems, but also on the will and understanding of the whole nation.

The spirit that brought Douglas County into the state as an adult survives and as yet there is no tendency to surrender to forces which sometimes threaten to engulf a farm population. The problems of Douglas County are not isolated ones and do not spring from errors in judgment of its citizens, nor from mistakes in planning, or corruption in high offices. The wellspring of American integrity is yet in a large measure to be found in counties like Douglas, Illinois.

2. GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND RECORDS SYSTEM

Introduction

The county in Illinois is a corporate body¹ and an administrative unit of the state; its governmental organization is at all times largely an expression of this dual nature.

The growth of the county as a body politic is reflected, in each of the state's three constitutional periods, in a progressive expansion of the powers which may by law be exercised by the county board, and in the creation of new, and the extension of existing, county offices. The latter phase of growth in Douglas County and in others similarly organized at present, has also been affected by the adoption of township organization, which for the first time constituted the civil towns as an additional level of government.

An analogous development appears in the state's invasion of new fields of government and the extension of the county's role as its agent. Originally, the county performed but a single important function for the state, that of collecting its share of the taxes levied within the county. Since then, however, education, public health, registration of vital statistics, public assistance, and many similar if less important matters have entered the province of state control or supervision. To effect this control, new governmental units, subcounty districts of various types, have come into existence or have been converted to new purposes; the county, because of its intermediate position, has become more important as a medium of that control.

Thus the complete operation of county government in Illinois brings into play a number of partly distinct authorities. Their relationships, at any time, are complex. The changing governmental organization of Douglas County, therefore, is easiest traced from the viewpoint of the major functions of county government.

General Administration

General administrative jurisdiction over county business has always been vested in the county board. Under the first constitution, for all counties, the county commissioners' court acted as the county board.² It was expressly declared to have no original or appellate jurisdiction in civil or criminal actions, but had all power necessary to the exercise of its jurisdiction in cases concerning the public affairs of the county

1. R.L.1827, p. 107; R.S.1845, p. 130; R.S.1874, p. 306.

2. Constitution of 1818, Schedule, sec. 4; L.1819, p. 175,176.

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and Records System

collectively.¹ The commissioners were constitutional officers,² and elected;³ the court existed solely by statutory provision.⁴ Attached to it in a ministerial capacity was the independent statutory office of clerk of the county commissioners' court,⁵ at first filled at the appointment of the court,⁶ later by election.⁷

Under the second constitution, the newly created county court succeeded to the position of the county commissioners' court.⁸ As an administrative body,⁹ it was composed of the county judge, an elected, constitutional officer,¹⁰ and two justices of the peace, elected at large.¹¹ Another new office, that of clerk of the county court, was created to provide it with a ministerial officer; the clerk also was elected.¹²

The Constitution of 1848 also made provision, for the first time, for an optional form of county government.¹³ The subsequent enabling acts¹⁴ provided that whenever the voters of a county might so determine, that county should adopt township organization; one of the principal results of such a change was to alter the form of the county board.¹⁵ Douglas County so elected in 1867, and in 1868 the county court was succeeded by a board of supervisors, composed of members elected, one in each of the several townships.¹⁶ The clerk of the county court was required by law to act as the ministerial officer of the new county board.¹⁷ In 1872, however, that clerk was replaced by a new officer, the county clerk, whose office had been created and made elective, by the third constitution,¹⁸ and who was required by law to act as ministerial officer for the county board.¹⁹

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1. L.1819, p. 176.
 2. Constitution of 1818, Schedule, sec. 4.
 3. L.1819, p. 100; L.1821, p. 100; R.L.1837, p. 103,104.
 4. L.1819, p. 175.
 5. Ibid.
 6. Ibid.
 7. R.L.1837, p. 49; L.1845, p. 28.
 8. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 65.
 9. The county court was also a court of law. For its jurisdiction as such, see Administration of Justice, Courts, p. 73.
 10. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 17.
 11. Ibid., Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 65,66.
 12. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 63.
 13. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6.
 14. The original enabling act of 1849 (L.1849, p. 190-224) was repealed two years later by a more comprehensive but essentially similar law (L.1851, p. 35-78).
 15. Other effects of the change, within the sphere of county government proper, appear with regard to the taxation procedure. See Finances, p. 71.
 16. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6; L.1851, p. 38,50-52; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 5.
 17. L.1849, p. 203; L.1851, p. 52.
 18. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 3.
 19. R.S.1874, p. 322.

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Another significant change in the form of the county board has been the addition to its membership of assistant supervisors, elected from the various towns on the basis of population;¹ the assistant supervisors have no powers or duties as town officers, but are members of the county board and as such enjoy the same powers and rights as other members.²

The Constitution of 1870 also provided a new form of county board in counties not under township organization. This board was to be composed of three officers, styled commissioners, who would transact all county business as provided by law.³ Subsequent legislation granted to the board of county commissioners all powers and duties formerly exercised by the county court when acting in its administrative capacity.⁴ These laws were ineffective in Douglas because this county has retained township organization since its institution in 1868.

Concurrent with the changing organization of the county board is an expansion of its functions without, however, considerable extension beyond the original jurisdiction conferred upon the county commissioners' court. The authority of that body extended to the imposition and regulation of taxes,⁵ a limited but increasing management of county property,⁶ and a growing fiscal control, stringent in regard to tax collections,⁷ sporadic in its check on the expenditures of other county offices.⁸ The court additionally had power to appoint judges of election,⁹ select juries,¹⁰ and, with limitations, to provide for the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges.¹¹ Poor relief¹² and a tentative supervision of education¹³ also fell within its general administrative jurisdiction.

The effect of subsequent legislation, in the main, has only been to broaden that jurisdiction. The county board has been given full power to purchase, contract for, dispose of, and make regulations concerning all

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1. R.S.1874, p. 1080; L.1925, p. 605; L.1929, p. 774; L.1931, p. 905-10; L.1933, p. 1115,1116.
 2. R.S.1874, p. 1080.
 3. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 6.
 4. L.1873-74, p. 79.
 5. L.1819, p. 175.
 6. Ibid., p. 237,238; L.1842-43, p. 128.
 7. L.1819, p. 238,318; L.1823, p. 208; R.L.1827, p. 373,375; R.L.1829, p. 121; L.1842-43, p. 112; L.1845, p. 11,12.
 8. R.L.1827, p. 366; L.1831, p. 175.
 9. L.1819, p. 90.
 10. Ibid., p. 255; L.1823, p. 182.
 11. Either by calling on the able-bodied men of the county for labor, or by raising bond issues by subscription (L.1819, p. 333,334,336,337,343; L.1821, p. 167; L.1825, p. 130-33).
 12. L.1819, p. 127; L.1839, p. 138,139.
 13. R.S.1845, p. 500,501.

real and personal property of the county.¹ It is now required also to audit all claims against the county and the accounts of such officers as are not provided for by law.² Otherwise, the changes in form of the county board in Douglas County have not materially affected the general administrative jurisdiction of that body.³

Finances

In Illinois counties, there has always been a close relationship between the taxation processes and fiscal control. This circumstance, as well as frequent evidence of the county board's ultimate control in such matters, appears in a resume of the legal status and duties of the officers involved.

Taxation

The assessment function in taxation was delegated by the first General Assembly to the county treasurer, a statutory officer appointed by the county commissioners' court.⁴ The administrative body, within statutory limits, fixed the amount of the levy, while the value of many categories of real and personal property was fixed by law; however, a limited discretion was left to the assessing officer.⁵ In 1825 assessments were made by the county assessor, also an appointee of the county commissioners' court.⁶ This duty reverted to the county treasurer in 1827⁷ and continued to be vested in that office until 1839, when the General Assembly provided for the appointment by the county commissioners' court of district assessors, not to exceed one in every justice's district.⁸ The earlier system was reestablished in 1844, with the treasurer, however, now having the status of ex-officio county assessor.⁹ Since 1868, the date of the institution of township organization in Douglas County, the assessment function has been performed on the lower governmental level by town assessors, elected one in each township.¹⁰ Today, the principal duties of the assessing officers, taken together, are to bring up to date each year the periodic assessment of real property, to take current lists of, and appraise personal property and special categories

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1. L.1851, p. 50,51; L.1861, p. 235,236; R.S.1874, p. 306,307; L.1911, p. 245,246; L.1923, p. 304,305; L.1937, p. 453,454.
 2. L.1851, p. 51; R.S.1874, p. 307; L.1923, p. 299.
 3. Cf. this running summary with R.S.1874, p. 306,307, and R.S.1937, p. 910-12.
 4. L.1819, p. 315.
 5. Ibid., p. 313,319; L.1825, p. 173; L.1839, p. 4-6; L.1840, p. 4; L.1845, p. 6.
 6. L.1825, p. 173.
 7. R.L.1827, p. 330.
 8. L.1839, p. 4.
 9. L.1843, p. 231.
 10. L.1851, p. 38; L.1871-72, p. 20-24.

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of other property.¹ The treasurer now has the status of ex-officio supervisor of assessments.²

The functions which today fall within the scope of the board of review were originally dispersed and attenuated. In the first constitutional period, it was left to interested individuals or parties to report property omitted from assessment; the county commissioners' court could hear appeals from assessments, but there was no provision for their equalization by districts.³ During the second constitutional period, appeals, in Douglas County, were made to the county court.⁴ After the institution of township organization in 1858, town boards were empowered to revise the assessments within their own jurisdiction, and the county board was required to meet annually to assess omitted property, review assessments upon complaint, and equalize valuations between towns.⁵ In 1898 this authority of the county board was transferred to the newly created board of review, composed of the chairman of the county board as ex-officio chairman, the county clerk as ex-officio clerk, and an additional member appointed by the county judge.⁶ In 1923 the county clerk was replaced by another member appointed by the county judge;⁷ the board of review now appoints its own clerk.⁸

The collection function was originally performed in all counties by the sheriff, an elected constitutional officer.⁹ Its nature has changed little since that time. Essentially, the collecting officer collects taxes according to information originating outside his jurisdiction, pays over such sums to authorities designated by statute to receive them, and reports on payments of taxes and delinquencies.¹⁰ In 1839, by a development analogous to that which occurred with regard to assessments, the county board extended its control to appoint a regular county collector.¹¹ Soon after, the law reverted to the earlier situation, with the sheriff acting as ex-officio collector.¹² This situation continued until Douglas County adopted township organization when town collectors were elected, one in each township,¹³ and

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1. L.1853, p. 16,17; L.1855, p. 18,24,55; L.1871-72, p. 11,14,15,19,23; L.1873, p. 51; L.1879, p. 241-45; L.1881, p. 133; L.1885, p. 234; L.1895, p. 300,301; L.1905, p. 360; L.1915, p. 568; L.1923, p. 495,500; L.1927, p. 774; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 69.
 2. L.1898, p. 36-44.
 3. L.1819, p. 316; R.L.1827, p. 330; L.1839, p. 7; L.1843, p. 239; L.1845, p. 8.
 4. L.1849, p. 65; Douglas County was created in 1859 (L.1859, p. 24,28).
 5. L.1851, p. 56,57; L.1871-72, p. 21,22,24,25.
 6. L.1898, p. 46.
 7. L.1923, p. 496; L.1932, p. 75.
 8. L.1923, p. 496,497.
 9. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; L.1819, p. 316.
 10. L.1819, p. 316-18; L.1821, p. 182,183; R.L.1827, p. 332,333; R.L.1829, p. 118,121-23; L.1831, p. 125; R.L.1837, p. 581,582; L.1839, p. 7-12; L.1843, p. 243; L.1845, p. 11; L.1847, p. 81; L.1871-72, p. 55,57,58.
 11. L.1838-39, p. 7.
 12. L.1843, p. 234.
 13. L.1849, p. 192; L.1851, p. 38.

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and the county treasurer became ex-officio county collector.¹ The town officers paid over their collections directly to the county officer, and supplied the basic information for the latter's summary report of collections in the county.² In 1917 the town office of collector was abolished in counties the size of Douglas, and the county collector became ex-officio town collector, assuming all duties previously assigned to the latter officer.³

Coordination of the taxation processes has always been effected by the county clerk or his predecessors. The assessment books are made out by the clerk, and returned to him by the assessor; similarly, the collector reports on collections on delinquent property; finally, the treasurer's receipts to the collector for taxes paid come into his possession, and the centralization of records concerning the basic taxation procedure is completed.⁴

Fiscal Control

The fiduciary function in county finances is performed by the county treasurer alone. The duties of the office have remained substantially the same since its creation; namely, to receive, principally from the collectors of taxes, the revenue of the county; to have custody of its funds; and to disburse funds only by specific authorization by law, or in accordance with the order of the county board.⁵ Through this last requirement, and that of the treasurer to report periodically to the board on the transactions of his office, in addition to his regular settlement with it, the lines of financial authority once more lead to the county board.⁶

Administration of Justice

Courts

Justice, in Illinois counties, has been administered by a constantly increasing number of bodies. The Constitution of 1818 vested the judicial powers of the state in a Supreme Court and such inferior courts as the General Assembly should ordain and establish; required the Supreme Court justices to hold circuit courts in the several counties; and provided for the appointment, in such manner and with such powers and duties as the General Assembly should direct, of a competent number of justices of the peace in each county.⁷

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1. L.1853, p. 67.
 2. L.1871-72, p. 41,56,57.
 3. L.1917, p. 793.
 4. L.1819, p. 317; R.L.1827, p. 373; R.L.1837, p. 582; L.1839, p. 8-12; L.1840, p. 3; L.1845, p. 9,11; L.1853, p. 66,77,111; L.1851-72, p. 32, 34,35,46,56-58; L.1873-74, p. 51; L.1911, p. 485; L.1917, p. 654; L.1919, p. 765; L.1921, p. 747.
 5. L.1819, p. 315,316; R.S.1845, p. 138; L.1861, p. 239; R.S.1874, p. 323, 324.
 6. L.1819, p. 318; R.L.1837, p. 582,583; L.1845, p. 33; R.S.1845, p. 138, 139; L.1861, p. 239,240; R.S.1874, p. 323,324.
 7. Constitution of 1818, Art. IV, sec. 1,4,8.

Federal statutes already allowed circuit courts, in all states, jurisdiction over the naturalization of aliens;¹ the first state legislature additionally conferred jurisdiction over all causes at common law and chancery and over all cases of treason, felony, and other crimes and misdemeanors.² The legislature further required that two terms of a circuit court be held in each county annually by one of the Supreme Court justices,³ but in 1824 provision was made for the holding of circuit courts by separate circuit court judges, to be appointed, as were the Supreme Court justices, by both branches of the General Assembly, and to hold office during good behavior.⁴ In 1827 the General Assembly repealed the 1824 law, and again provided for circuit courts to be held by Supreme Court justices.⁵ At the next session of the legislature, when a new circuit was established, provision was made for the appointment of a circuit judge to act therein.⁶ At that time, therefore, the circuit courts were held by Supreme Court justices in four judicial circuits and by a circuit judge in the fifth.⁷ A change was made again in 1835, when power to hold circuit courts was taken away from the Supreme Court justices and provision was made for the appointment of five circuit judges, in addition to the one already authorized, to hold circuit courts.⁸ The six judicial circuits existing at that time were supplemented during the next few years by the creation of new circuits,⁹ so that they numbered nine in 1841 when the office of circuit judge was again abolished and the Supreme Court justices, also increased to nine, were required to hold circuit courts.¹⁰

The authority of justices of the peace was limited by law to jurisdiction in specified civil cases and in misdemeanors, with appeals allowed from their judgments to the circuit court.¹¹ The power of appointment, the legislature at first reserved to itself;¹² in 1827, however, justices of

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1. 2 U.S.Stat.L. 153-55.
 2. L.1819, p. 380.
 3. Ibid., p. 378.
 4. L.1824, p. 41. The Constitution of 1818, which had required that Supreme Court justices be appointed by the General Assembly, further provided that they should not, after the first session of the legislature subsequent to January 1, 1824, hold circuit courts unless required to do so by law (Art. IV, sec. 4).
 5. R.L.1827, p. 118, 119.
 6. R.L.1829, p. 38.
 7. Ibid., p. 42, 48.
 8. L.1835, p. 150.
 9. L.1837, p. 113; L.1838-39, p. 155.
 10. L.1841, p. 173.
 11. L.1819, p. 185, 192, 195.
 12. Ibid., p. 22.

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the peace were required to be elected, two in each of such districts as should be determined within statutory limits by the county commissioners' court.¹

Jurisdiction over probate matters was at the outset delegated to the county commissioners' court.² By act of the next General Assembly, it was transferred to the court of probate,³ consisting in each county of one judge appointed by the General Assembly.⁴ As a result of the substitution in 1837 of probate justices of the peace for the judges of probate,⁵ jurisdiction over probate matters for the first time was placed in the hands of elected officers.⁶

The county court was the creation of the second constitution,⁷ which also made circuit judges elected officers.⁸ With regard to the new court, it was further provided by law that it should be held in each county by a single elected officer, the county judge.⁹ Its authority was extended to jurisdiction in all probate matters, and to such jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases as might be conferred by the General Assembly.¹⁰ In pursuance of this latter provision, the county court was first given the same civil and criminal jurisdiction as justices of the peace;¹¹ at the same session of the General Assembly, however, it was declared that county judges when exercising this jurisdiction, acted only in the capacity of justices of the peace.¹² Until the next constitutional period, the county court, as such, was given jurisdiction only in a limited number of special actions;¹³ it was however, considered entitled to equal jurisdiction with the circuit court over naturalization.¹⁴ In this same period, provision was made for increasing, on the basis of population, the number of justices of the peace to be elected in each district. In Douglas County, and others

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1. R.L.1827, p. 255,256. Since 1821, however, the county commissioners' court had been required to establish such districts, which also constituted general election precincts (L.1821, p. 74). For changes in the statutory limitations of this power of the court, see R.L.1827, p. 255, and R.L.1829, p. 93.
 2. L.1819, p. 223-33.
 3. L.1821, p. 121.
 4. Ibid., p. 119. The Constitution of 1818 (Art. IV, sec. 4) had also designated this manner of election for judges of all inferior courts.
 5. L.1837, p. 176,177.
 6. The Constitution of 1818 (Art. IV, sec. 8) had reserved to the General Assembly the right to prescribe the manner of appointment of justices of the peace.
 7. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 1,16.
 8. Ibid., Art. V, sec. 7,15.
 9. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 17.
 10. Ibid., Art. V, sec. 18.
 11. L.1849, p. 65.
 12. Ibid.
 13. Ibid., p. 65,66; L.1853, p. 103; L.1861, p. 171,172.
 14. 2 U.S.Stat.L. 155.

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similarly organized, one additional justice of the peace is now elected for every one thousand inhabitants exceeding two thousand inhabitants in each town.¹

Provision was first made by the Constitution of 1870 for the establishment by the General Assembly of an independent probate court in each county having a population of more than fifty thousand inhabitants.² As first established by statute, the new courts were to be formed in counties of one hundred thousand or more inhabitants.³ This population requirement was lowered to seventy thousand in 1881.⁴ The population of Douglas County not having reached this figure, jurisdiction over probate matters has continued to be vested in the county court in accordance with constitutional provision to that effect.⁵ The county court, early in this period, was given concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit court in appeals from justices of the peace;⁶ its original jurisdiction was extended to be equal with that of the circuit court in all that class of cases cognizable by justices of the peace⁷ and involving in controversy sums not exceeding \$500.⁸ In 1906, however, it lost its naturalization jurisdiction since it failed to meet the additional requirement of Federal legislation that it possess jurisdiction at law without limitation upon amounts in controversy.⁹ The present constitution, also, for the first time, directed the manner in which the General Assembly should establish judicial circuits, requiring that circuits be formed of contiguous counties and that they should not exceed in number one circuit for every one hundred thousand of population of the state.¹⁰ At present there are eighteen circuits in Illinois, and Douglas County is attached to the sixth circuit.¹¹

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1. L.1854, p. 30. No more than five justices, however, may be elected from any town or election precinct.
 2. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 20.
 3. L.1877, p. 79,80.
 4. L.1881, p. 72. In 1933, the act of 1877 was further amended to make the establishment of an independent probate court mandatory in counties having a population of eighty-five thousand or more, and optional in counties having a population of between seventy thousand and eighty-five thousand (L.1933, p. 458).
 5. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 18.
 6. L.1895, p. 212,223.
 7. The jurisdiction of justices has also been progressively increased during this period. See L.1871-72, p. 524; L.1895, p. 189,190; L.1917, p. 562,563; L.1929, p. 541,542.
 8. L.1871-72, p. 325.
 9. 34 U.S.Stat.L. 596.
 10. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 13.
 11. L.1933, p. 436.

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Clerks of Courts

The clerk of the circuit court under the Constitution of 1818, was to be appointed by a majority of the justices of that court.¹ Since 1849, however, by provisions of the constitutions of 1848 and 1870, the office has been filled by election.² The office of clerk of the county court, which was an independent elective office under the second constitution,³ is now filled in an ex-officio capacity by the county clerk⁴ who is also required by constitutional provision to be elected.⁵ The county commissioners' court, which for a brief period held jurisdiction over probate matters, had its own clerk who was at that time appointed by the court.⁶ Probate judges and justices of the peace who subsequently held probate jurisdiction, were required to act as their own clerks.⁷ With the transfer of probate, jurisdiction to the county court, the clerk of the county court was required to keep, separately, records of probate proceedings and business.⁸ In Douglas County where the county court still retains probate jurisdiction, the county clerk serves it in these matters in his capacity as ex-officio clerk of the county court.⁹ Justices of the peace have always been required to keep their records in person.¹⁰

Ministerial Officers

The principal ministerial officer of all courts of record in Illinois counties is the sheriff. The first constitution provided that the sheriff should be elected.¹¹ Later, in 1827, statutory provision was made for the appointment of deputies by the principal officer;¹² since 1870, the number of deputies that the sheriff may appoint is determined by rule of the circuit court.¹³ The ministerial duties of the sheriff have undergone little change in more than one hundred years. Essentially he is to attend, in person or by deputy, all courts of record in the county, obeying the orders and directions of the court, and to serve, execute, and return all writs, warrants, process, orders, and decrees legally directed to him.¹⁴

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1. Constitution of 1818, Art. IV, sec. 6.
 2. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21,29; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
 3. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19.
 4. R.S.1874, p. 260.
 5. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
 6. L.1819, p. 175.
 7. L.1821, p. 119,120; R.L.1837, p. 177,178.
 8. L.1849, p. 66.
 9. R.S.1874, p. 260.
 10. L.1819, p. 185-97 (no specific record-keeping requirement listed among general duties of justices), 326 (establishing fees to be paid justices for keeping records); R.L.1827, p. 260 (becomes definite provision for justices to keep own records); L.1895, p. 221,222.
 11. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11.
 12. R.L.1827, p. 373.
 13. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.
 14. L.1819, p. 111; R.S.1874, p. 990,991.

The coroner was originally given equal power with the sheriff as a ministerial officer of the courts.¹ He was also required to serve all process in any suit in which the sheriff was an interested party² and to perform all the duties of the sheriff when that office was vacant.³ The last two functions are still incumbent upon the coroner.⁴

Justices of the peace are served similarly in a ministerial capacity by constables. Not until 1870 was the office of constable given constitutional recognition;⁵ at its creation by the first General Assembly, the county commissioners' court was empowered to appoint one or more constables in each township;⁶ in 1827 it was provided that two constables should be elected in each justice of the peace district.⁷ Since that date, subsequent legislation has grouped justices of the peace and constables in all provisions regarding their election.⁸ Constables, like sheriffs and coroners, have always been required to serve and execute all process legally directed to them;⁹ process issuing from a justice of the peace court, however, may be directed only to some constable of the same county.¹⁰

Prosecutions

The duty of the present state's attorney to prosecute and defend all actions, civil or criminal, involving the county, the people, or officers of the state or county,¹¹ was incumbent originally upon the circuit attorney.¹² In 1827 this officer was replaced by the state's attorney.¹³ Also in effect from an early date is the officer's other major duty, apart

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1. L.1819, p. 111.
 2. L.1821, p. 20-23.
 3. R.L.1827, p. 372,373.
 4. R.S.1874, p. 282. Despite the absence from the present law of statutory provision for the coroner to serve process originally directed to him (R.S.1874, p. 281,282), the courts have held that he may so do, an emergency being presumed to exist without need for the process to recite reason for its issuance to the coroner (20 Ill. 185; 57 Ill. 268).
 5. Constitution of 1870, Art. VII, sec. 21.
 6. L.1819, p. 162.
 7. R.L.1827, p. 258.
 8. See Courts, p. 73.
 9. L.1819, p. 162,163; R.S.1874, p. 400.
 10. L.1819, p. 186; R.S.1845, p. 317; L.1871-72, p. 525; L.1895, p. 191, 193; L.1937, p. 900. Similarly, process issuing from courts of record is required to be directed to the sheriff or, under certain conditions noted (footnotes 1,2, and 3), to the coroner (R.S.1845, p. 413; L.1871-72, p. 338; R.S.1874, p. 774; L.1907, p. 444,445; L.1933, p. 786; L.1937, p. 989).
 11. R.S.1874, p. 173,174.
 12. L.1819, p. 204; L.1825, p. 178,179.
 13. L.1827, p. 79,80.

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from the enforcement of law,¹ of giving opinions on any questions of law relating to criminal or other matters in which the people of the county may be concerned.²

The office of circuit attorney and early state's attorney, which existed solely by statutory provision,³ were appointive by the Governor until 1835,⁴ and thereafter by the General Assembly.⁵ The second constitution provided for an elected state's attorney;⁶ since each judicial circuit was an elective district for this purpose, the territorial jurisdiction of the new officer remained the same as that of the former officer.⁷ Not until the adoption of the present constitution was provision made for the election of a separate state's attorney in each county.⁸

Inquests

The holding of inquests, one of the duties of the coroner in Illinois counties, is also a part of the administration of justice. The office of coroner was created by the first constitution and required to be filled by election;⁹ the statutory provisions concerning the inquest function have not changed substantially since their enactment by the second General Assembly.¹⁰ The coroner, when informed of the body of any person being found dead, supposedly by violence, casualty, or undue means, is required to summon a jury to inquire how, in what manner, and by whom or what, death was caused; testimony of witnesses is taken; witnesses whose evidence implicates any person as the unlawful slayer of the deceased are bound over to the circuit court; the verdict of the jury is returned to the clerk of that court.¹¹

The verdict of the coroner's jury, however, is not generally admissible in evidence;¹² additionally, it is not held to be prima facie proof of

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1. See Enforcement of Law, p. 80.
 2. R.S.1845, p. 76; R.S.1874, p. 174.
 3. L.1819, p. 204-6.
 4. Ibid., p. 204.
 5. L.1835, p. 44.
 6. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21.
 7. Ibid., Art. V, sec. 22.
 8. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22.
 9. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11.
 10. Cf. L.1821, p. 22-24; R.S.1845, p. 517,518; R.S.1874, p. 282-84; R.S.1937, p. 780-82.
 11. L.1821, p. 24,25; R.S.1845, p. 518; R.S.1874, p. 284; L.1879, p. 82; L.1907, p. 213; L.1919, p. 403,404; L.1931, p. 388,389.
 12. 46 N.W. 872. It is, however, held to be proper practice to offer, in cross-examining witnesses sought to be impeached, excerpts from transcripts of testimony taken at the inquest (189 Ill. App. 556; 211 Ill. App. 474).

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matters stated therein with regard to the cause and manner of death;¹ its essential nature, therefore, is that of a finding of facts upon the basis of which the coroner may be led to discharge his collateral duty to apprehend and commit to jail any person implicated by the inquest as the unlawful slayer of the deceased.² To this extent, the coroner's inquest duties overlap his function as an officer for the enforcement of law.

Enforcement of Law

Sheriffs, coroners, and constables have always been charged equally with keeping the peace and apprehending all offenders against the law.³ The state's attorney's powers as an officer for the enforcement of law originally derive by implication from another duty;⁴ the gathering of evidence and the apprehension of offenders is necessarily involved in commencing and prosecuting actions in which the people of the state or county are concerned.⁵ In relatively recent years, however, the state's attorney has been given more specific statutory powers to enforce laws and to investigate violations and secure necessary evidence thereof.⁶ At any time, however, the effective spheres of authority of law enforcement officers have been determined less by statutory provisions than by local conditions and individual circumstances.

Education

The act of Congress providing for the creation and admission of the State of Illinois to the Union set aside section sixteen of every township for the use of schools.⁷ The first state legislation on the subject was concerned only with the establishment of school districts and the sale or leasing of school land to provide necessary funds, for which purposes three trustees of school lands were appointed in each township by the county commissioners' court.⁸

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1. 201 Ill. App. 287.
 2. L.1821, p. 25; R.S.1845, p. 518; R.S.1874, p. 285.
 3. L.1819, p. 111,162,163; R.S.1845, p. 328,515; R.S.1874, p. 400,990.
 4. See Prosecutions, p. 78.
 5. Previously cited; see p. 78, footnote 12.
 6. L.1885, p. 3; L.1907, p. 268; L.1913, p. 395; L.1915, p. 368; L.1927, p. 33.
 7. 3 U.S. Stat. L.428.
 8. L.1819, p. 107,108.

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In 1825, however, with a common school system in operation, provision was made for its educational as well as financial administration. Three elected officers, known as township school trustees, were charged in each township with superintending schools, examining and employing teachers, leasing all land belonging to the district, and reporting annually to the county commissioners' court; this report, however, was limited to such matters as were concerned in the financial administration of the schools.¹ In 1827 the county commissioners' court was again empowered to appoint trustees of school lands, but despite the use of the earlier, more limited title, these officers were charged with all the duties of the former township school trustees.² The creation of office of county school commissioner in 1829 brought a new element into the complex situation. The commissioner was at first given limited duties with regard to the sale of school lands and the management of school funds;³ his subsequent gains in this respect at the expense of the township trustees foreshadowed the demarcation of spheres of authority that was made in 1847.⁴ In the interim, the school commissioner, who had first been appointed by the county commissioners' court,⁵ became an elected officer;⁶ in such townships as elected to incorporate for the purpose of organizing and supporting schools, township trustees also became elected officers and were there denominated trustees of schools.⁷

The situation created by the legislation of 1847 in certain respects has not since been substantially altered. In all counties, township trustees became, and are still, elected officers, styled township school trustees.⁸ The relative authority of the officer of the county⁹ and of

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1. L.1825, p. 121,122.
 2. R.L.1827, p. 366-70.
 3. R.L.1829, p. 150-54.
 4. Cf. L.1831, p. 176; L.1841, p. 275-79.
 5. R.L.1829, p. 150.
 6. L.1841, p. 261,262.
 7. L.1841, p. 273,274. In unincorporated townships, trustees continued to be appointed by the county commissioners' court (*Ibid.*, p. 259,260).
 8. L.1847, p. 126; L.1909, p. 350.
 9. The subsequent substitution of an independent elected superintendent of schools for the school commissioner who had additionally been ex-officio superintendent (see footnotes 3,5,6, p. 82), was only a change in the legal status of the officer of the county and had no further import.

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officers of the township with regard to financial administration was fixed essentially as at present.¹ Moreover, township trustees lost practically all their former duties with regard to matters purely educational as a result of a development that occurred in 1845.

It was at that time that the county first entered into the actual administration of education with the creation of the office of superintendent of schools.² Filled at first by the school commissioner in an ex-officio capacity,³ it quickly absorbed most of the functions of township trustees with regard to the advancement of education;⁴ later, the office came to be filled by election⁵ and completely absorbed that of school commissioner.⁶ In the new field of county administration of education, the superintendent's duties remained constant through his change in legal status, requiring him to visit all the townships in his county and inquire into the condition and manner of conducting their schools, to examine persons proposing to teach school, to grant certificates to persons qualified to teach in schools, and to report to the county board on all his acts relating to the management of school funds and lands.⁷ Subsequent legislation has enlarged the scope of this phase of the superintendent's functions, but it is in his role as an agent of state supervision that he has been charged with numerous duties of a new character.⁸

The authority of the state with regard to education, first manifested in 1845, has, like that of the county, been extended beyond its original bounds. Originally the county superintendent was required only to communicate to the State Superintendent of Common Schools⁹ information concerning the schools in his county.¹⁰ Today, as a consequence of the state's

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1. L.1847, p. 123,124,128,129; L.1909, p. 351-54; L.1927, p. 794,795.
 2. R.S.1845, p. 498.
 3. Ibid.
 4. R.S.1845, p. 497-503. Cf. L.1825, p. 121,122; R.L.1827, p. 366-70; L.1831, p. 173; L.1841, p. 270,275,276,279. The only duty of this category that was left to township trustees in the laws of 1847 concerned the examination of prospective teachers and the issuance of certificates where merited (L.1847, p. 130). It was omitted from the revised school law of 1851 (L.1851, p. 127).
 5. L.1865, p. 112.
 6. Ibid., p. 112,113.
 7. R.S.1845, p. 498,500,501. Cf. L.1847, p. 121-25; L.1857, p. 261-65, 278,279,296,297; L.1861, p. 190,191; L.1865, p. 114,119-21.
 8. L.1909, p. 347-50; L.1915, p. 636-38.
 9. The Secretary of State in ex-officio capacity (L.1845, p. 52). In 1854 the office became independent, filled by election, and known as that of Superintendent of Public Instruction (L.1854, p. 13), which is its present status (L.1909, p. 343).
 10. L.1845, p. 54.

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increasing intervention in matters of public health and safety, the county superintendent is required to inspect, with regard to specifications, plans submitted to him for the heating, ventilation, lighting, etc., of public school rooms and buildings; to visit and notice such public school buildings which appear to him to be unsafe, insanitary, or otherwise unfit for occupancy; and to request the Department of Public Health,¹ the state fire marshal, or the state architect to inspect such buildings and issue reports upon which condemnation proceedings can be based.²

Recordation

For the function of making legal record of written instruments, the first General Assembly established the office of recorder.³ Originally appointed by the Governor,⁴ the recorder was required to be elected after 1835.⁵ The second constitution made the clerk of the circuit court⁶ ex-officio recorder in all counties;⁷ the present constitution continued the earlier provision in counties of under sixty thousand population and provided for the election of a recorder in counties of that population or more.⁸ As Douglas County never met the population requirement, the clerk of the circuit court has continued to fulfill the duties of recorder.

The basic duty of the recorder, to record at length and in the order of their receipt all instruments in writing, has remained essentially unchanged; legislation has been directed toward the extension of categories of instruments entitled to be recorded.⁹ Conveyances of title to land, a major category of such records, frequently involve another county officer, the surveyor. Established by the second General Assembly,¹⁰ the office of surveyor was at first filled by appointment by that body,¹¹ later by election.¹² In 1936 the surveyor again became an appointed officer, with the power of appointment delegated to the county board.¹³ His duty to perform

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1. Prior to 1917, the rights, powers, and duties of this department were vested in the State Board of Health, abolished in that year (L.1917, p. 4,17,27).
 2. L.1915, p. 637-40.
 3. L.1819, p. 18-20.
 4. Ibid., p. 18,19.
 5. L.1835, p. 166.
 6. An elected officer; see Clerks of Courts, p. 77.
 7. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 64.
 8. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; R.S.1874, p. 833.
 9. L.1819, p. 18,20; R.L.1829, p. 117,118; R.L.1833, p. 511; R.S.1845, p. 305,432,606; L.1851, p. 80; L.1859, p. 124; L.1869, p. 2; R.S.1874, p. 833,834; L.1921, p. 756,757; L.1925, p. 520-22.
 10. L.1821, p. 62.
 11. Ibid.
 12. L.1835, p. 166.
 13. L.1933, p. 1104. Provision effective in 1936.

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all surveys he may be called on to make within his county has undergone only minor change, but its importance has declined; the acts of any surveyor, properly acknowledged and certified, have equal standing before the law with those of the county surveyor; no maps or plats have any legal effect unless recorded by the recorder.¹

Public Works

Roads and Bridges

Public roads and bridges were first under the superintendence of the county commissioners' court which was authorized to locate new roads and alter or vacate existing roads.² The act providing for such superintendence empowered the commissioners to appoint freeholders in each township to act as supervisors, each appointment to be for a one-year period. New roads were to be opened by the county commissioners' court upon petition of residents of the county and a favorable report from the road viewers and surveyor. A few years later the county commissioners were authorized to divide the county into road districts and to appoint annually one supervisor to serve in each district.³ With a change in the county administrative body under the second constitution, the county court was granted supervision and control over public roads,⁴ but the care and superintendence of roads and bridges in counties electing the township form of government were granted to the commissioners of highways, elected annually in each town.⁵ The commissioners divided the town into road districts, and overseers of highways in each district were to repair the roads and carry out orders of the commissioners. In counties not electing the township form, the system of road districts was continued.⁶ Douglas County did not adopt township organization until 1867, and the supervision, control, and maintenance of roads, highways, and bridges during the second constitutional period were vested in the county court and the road district supervisors. In 1913 the State Highway Department was established, and provision was made for the appointment by the county board of a county superintendent of highways.⁷ The entire system was centralized by

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1. R.L.1829, p. 173; R.L.1833, p. 511; L.1845, p. 201; L.1869, p. 241,242; R.S.1874, p. 1050,1051; L.1901, p. 307,308; L.1915, p. 575.
 2. L.1819, p. 333.
 3. L.1825, p. 130.
 4. L.1849, p. 65; L.1851, p. 179.
 5. L.1849, p. 212.
 6. L.1847, p. 111-13; L.1849, p. 65,212,213; L.1851, p. 64,149.
 7. L.1913, p. 521-25, 537-46.

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subjecting the county superintendent to the rules and regulations of the state highway commissioner and by requiring candidates for county superintendent to be approved by the state commissioner before appointment by the county board. The term of office of the county superintendent was set at six years, and his salary was to be fixed by the county board. A board of highway commissioners was set up in each township to superintend matters relating to roads and bridges. Although the county superintendent was to act on behalf of the county in regard to roads and bridges, and although he was subject to removal by the county board, he was regarded as a deputy of the state highway engineer, subject to his directions. This indicates the intention of the legislature to unify the entire state system of roads and bridges. In 1917 the Department of Public Works and Buildings assumed the rights, powers, and duties vested in the State Highway Department,¹ but the county organization has remained essentially the same since 1913.

Public Buildings

The county is given the power to hold, own, and convey real estate for county purposes.² This power is exercised by the county board which is charged with the care and custody of all the real and personal property owned by the county. Throughout the period of statehood it has been provided that a courthouse and jail be erected in each county,³ and that the sheriff of each county be charged with custody of such buildings.⁴ The county is further empowered to erect buildings for a county hospital, workhouse, tuberculosis sanitarium, and other county needs.⁵

The county superintendent of schools is charged with the inspection of plans and specifications for public school rooms and buildings; and the approval of only those which comply with the specifications prepared by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.⁶ He is also to request the Department of Public Health,⁷ the state fire marshal, or the state architect to inspect public school buildings which appear to be unsafe, insanitary, or unfit for occupancy. Upon receipt of an unfavorable report from these officials, the county superintendent is to condemn the building and notify the board of directors or board of education, and the board of school trustees.

1. L.1913, p. 524,525,538,542-44; L.1917, p. 24; L.1921, p. 780-86; L.1933, p. 961.

2. R.S.1874, p. 306.

3. L.1819, p. 237,238; R.S.1845, p. 135; R.S.1874, p. 307,308.

4. L.1819, p. 111; R.L.1827, p. 246,247,372; R.S.1874, p. 990.

5. R.S.1874, p. 307; L.1909, p. 163; L.1911, p. 246.

6. L.1915, p. 637-40.

7. Created in 1917 to supplant the State Board of Health, abolished in that year (L.1917, p. 4,17,27).

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Drainage

In 1850 an act of Congress provided for the granting of swamp and overflowed lands to various states.¹ The land so granted to Illinois was turned over to the counties in 1852 to be reclaimed by drainage and used for county purposes.² Such lands were to be under the care and superintendence of the county court which was to appoint a "Drainage Commissioner" to conduct the sales of such lands. The county surveyor was to prepare plats of the swamp lands and return such plats to the clerk of the county court, whereupon the court fixed the valuation upon each tract. The purchasers of these tracts were given a certificate by the drainage commissioner, and a deed was later excuted by the county court. The court was to sell only enough swamp lands to insure reclamation of all such land, any balance to be granted to the several townships to be used for educational purposes. At the discretion of the county, such balance could also be used for the construction of roads or bridges, or for other public works.

In 1865 the commissioners of highways in each town became ex-officio boards of drainage commissioners.³ Where a proposed drain ran through more than one town the commissioners of all the towns effected made up the board of drainage commissioners.⁴ In 1879 drainage construction by special assessment was handled by the drainage commissioners, a body corporate and politic composed of commissioners of highways.⁵

Provision was first made for the organization of drainage districts for agricultural, sanitary, and mining purposes in 1879. Petitions were to be filed with the county clerk and hearings on the same were to be had before the county court. When the court found in favor of the petitioners, it appointed three disinterested persons as commissioners to lay out and construct the work. Petitions for the construction of drains to cost less than \$5,000 were to be presented to justices of the peace, if the petitioners so elected, and the commissioners of highways were to perform the duties of drainage commissioners in such cases.⁶ In 1885 this law was amended to include drains costing less than \$2,000 and provided for the appointment of three residents as commissioners.⁷

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1. 9 U.S.Stat.L. 519.
 2. L.1852, p. 178.
 3. L.1865, p. 50.
 4. L.1867, p. 91,92.
 5. L.1879, p. 142.
 6. Ibid., p. 120.
 7. L.1885, p. 130,131.

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Public Services

Public Health

The State Department of Public Health, created in 1917,¹ is charged with general supervision of the health and lives of the people of the state. In conformance with this legislative order it is empowered to supervise, aid, direct, and assist local health authorities or agencies in the administration of the health laws. Public health districts may be organized along subcounty lines with a board of health in each. The name of such districts are to be filed with the county clerk to complete their organization. Annually, each board of health certifies to the county clerk the rate of a public health tax to be levied in each district, the clerk being responsible for setting out the proper taxes upon the warrant books and transmitting them to the collector as provided for in regard to other taxes.²

Control of the state health department over lodging houses, boarding houses, taverns, inns, and hotels is effected through the county clerk, the proprietors of such establishments being required to file with the clerk an annual statement containing details as to sleeping accommodations for guests.³ The clerk is also required to report annually to the state health department the names and addresses of township officials.⁴

Mosquito abatement districts are organized upon petition to the county judge of the county in which such territory lies, such petitions being filed with the county clerk. If, after hearing, the county judge determines that the organization of a district is necessary, the question is submitted to the residents of the territory at a special election. The judges of election make return to the county judge, and the results are entered upon the records of the county court. A majority of the votes favoring it, a mosquito abatement district is thereupon organized.⁵

County officials also enter into the state's control of public swimming pools. When a representative of the State Department of Public Health finds conditions that warrant the closing of such a pool, the owner of the pool and the sheriff and state's attorney of the county are notified to that effect, it being the duty of these officers to enforce such notice.⁶

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1. L.1917, p. 4.
 2. Ibid., p. 27, 28, 763, 765, 767, 768.
 3. L.1901, p. 305.
 4. L.1923, p. 480.
 5. L.1927, p. 694.
 6. L.1931, p. 735, 736.

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Vital Statistics

The State Department of Public Health has charge of the registration of births, stillbirths, and deaths throughout the state.¹ To effect proper control of this matter the state is divided into vital statistics registration districts which, in Douglas County, are identical with the townships. The township clerk acts as the local registrar in these districts and receives certificates of births and deaths occurring in the district. Burial permits are issued by the registrar and are later returned to him for filing.

The local registrar is required to deposit monthly with the county clerk a complete set of records of births, stillbirths, and deaths registered during the month, and the clerk is charged with binding and indexing, or recording, and safekeeping of such records. The original certificates are sent monthly by the local registrars to the state health department which certifies annually to the county clerk the number of births, stillbirths, and deaths registered in the county.

The county board is to appropriate money for the payment of the local registrars' fees. Such amounts are charges against the county, and the county clerk is required to issue warrants on the county treasurer for the amount of the fees payable to the registrars.

The county also enters into the enforcement phase of this matter. The state health department reports cases of violations of any provisions of the act relating to registration to the state's attorney who is to initiate and follow up court proceedings against violators.

Public Assistance

Public assistance is administered through the services of the county department of public welfare, the county home, the blind examiner, the probation officers, the county clerk, and the county board.

The county department of public welfare is headed by a superintendent appointed by the county board after approval by the State Department of Public Welfare.² He assists the state department in the operation of welfare plans and policies within the county and has charge of the administration of old age assistance.³ In this latter regard the county department acts merely as the agent of the state department, investigating applicants and reporting results.

1. L.1915, p. 660-70.

2. L.1937, p. 451,452.

3. L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 54-61,72; L.1937, p. 265-70,452.

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The county home is an establishment for the maintenance and care of indigents. Its management and finances are provided by the county board.¹ Blind assistance is administered in the county through appropriations by the county board together with state funds. An examiner of the blind, appointed by the county board, examines all applicants referred to him by the county clerk.² The county court has jurisdiction in the administration of the mothers' pension fund. A probation officer, an appointee of the court for this purpose, investigates and visits cases of indigent mothers who are entitled to benefit.³

Coordination of Functions

From the foregoing discussion of functions of the county government it is apparent that the county plays a dual role, that of a body politic and that of an agent of the state. In its first capacity the county, through its officials, is capable of suing and being sued, purchasing, holding, and selling property, making contracts, and raising revenue for its proper operation. As a state agent it fits into a state-wide program on various matters of public concern, acting under the supervision and control of the state and coordinating the activities of subcounty agencies and officials.

Coordination of county activities is effected chiefly through the county clerk. An illustration of this is the part this official plays in the election procedure. He notifies the judges and clerks of elections of their appointment, supplies them with blanks and poll books, receives copies of registers of voters, issues notices of election, receives and preserves returns, canvasses votes with the assistance of two justices of the peace and retains the abstracts, transmits copies of election returns and abstracts of votes to the Secretary of State, and issues certificates of election.

Records System

County records in the State of Illinois have suffered from the lack of an adequate program of legislation designed to secure uniformity in recordation and to insure the proper care of those documents which have permanent value. However, from the inception of statehood, some effort has been made to coordinate the records systems of the several counties and to preserve their archives.

1. L.1935, p. 1057.

2. L.1903, p. 138; L.1915, p. 256,257; L.1935, p. 264,265.

3. L.1913, p. 127-30; L.1915, p. 243-45; L.1921, p. 162-64; L.1935, p. 256-59.

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In attempting to establish state-wide **uniformity** among counties, the General Assembly has at times provided detailed descriptions of required records and in many instances has supplied the very forms to be used. Laws relating to the duties and powers of county officers usually contained some such provisions. Thus, in 1819, the recorder of the county was ordered to supply "parchment or good large books, of royal or other large paper, well bound and covered" wherein to record all deeds and conveyances brought to him for that purpose. He was also to keep a fair book in which to enter every deed or writing to be recorded, noting the date, the parties, and the place where the lands were situated, such entries to be made according to priority of time.¹ In 1833 he was required to keep an alphabetical index to each book,² and by 1874 the General Assembly had prescribed a complete list of books to be kept in the office of the recorder, with a description of the contents of each, which list has been continued, substantially unchanged, to the present.³

In like manner, legislation was enacted prescribing records to be kept by the county clerk and his predecessors, acting in **their** several capacities,⁴ the clerk of the circuit court,⁵ the judge⁶ and justice⁷ of the probate court, the coroner,⁸ the county superintendent of schools,⁹ the county surveyor,¹⁰ and the county treasurer.¹¹

Description of records and forms to be used are frequently found in legislation pertaining to the holding of elections,¹² assessments and the collection of revenue,¹³ the organization and maintenance of common schools,¹⁴

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1. L.1819, p. 18,20.
 2. R.L.1833, p. 511.
 3. R.S.1874, p. 834.
 4. L.1849, p. 66,191,203; L.1859, p. 92,94; L.1865, p. 93; R.S.1874, p. 261-65,332; L.1933, p. 203,204.
 5. R.L.1833, p. 152; R.S.1845, p. 147; L.1847, p. 70; L.1849, p. 9; L.1865, p. 93; R.S.1874, p. 262,263; L.1933, p. 293,294.
 6. R.L.1829, p. 231.
 7. R.S.1845, p. 427,428.
 8. R.L.1833, p. 574; L.1869, p. 104,105; R.S.1874, p. 283.
 9. L.1849, p. 155,156; L.1865, p. 119; L.1909, p. 346,348,349.
 10. R.L.1829, p. 173; R.S.1845, p. 524.
 11. R.S.1845, p. 138; R.S.1874, p. 323,324.
 12. L.1819, p. 92,94; R.L.1827, p. 291,292; R.L.1829, p. 59,60; L.1845, p. 41,42; L.1849, p. 73,74; L.1865, p. 54,55; L.1871-72, p. 386-89, 391; L.1885, p. 143,148,173,176; L.1937, p. 522-29, 531-48.
 13. R.L.1827, p. 329-33; L.1838-39, p. 4,5,7,8,12,13,17; L.1845, p. 6-9, 12,14,15; L.1849, p. 37,38,124-26; L.1851, p. 53,55,56; L.1853, p. 17,24,50,55,77,78,111,112; L.1871-72, p. 19,23,32,48,49,54.
 14. L.1825, p. 127; R.L.1833, p. 563; L.1841, p. 263,270-72; L.1845, p. 53, 54,65,68; L.1847, p. 121-23, 142-44; R.S.1874, p. 950,957,958,964.

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the registration of marriages,¹ and the recording of vital statistics.²

While there has been enacted much legislation prescribing the kind of records to be kept, only a few laws deal with the safeguarding and preservation of county archives. In 1819 the General Assembly directed the clerks of the circuit and county commissioners' courts to provide "a safe press or presses with locks and keys for the safe-keeping of the archives of their offices . . ."³ In 1843 the county commissioners' courts were authorized, and required whenever the finances of the county would justify the expenditure, to erect a fireproof recorder's office at the county seat, or if the commissioners were of the opinion that any unappropriated room in their courthouses could be made fireproof, to make it so and house the office and records of the recorder there. At the discretion of the county commissioners' court, the provisions of this act might be deemed to apply to the offices of the clerks of the circuit and county commissioners' courts.⁴ Similar in content but slightly different in wording is a later enactment in which the county commissioners' courts were authorized to "erect, build, and provide permanent fireproof rooms, houses or vaults, for the purpose of placing therein and preserving from injury, damage, loss, or destruction by fire, the records and documents of their respective counties."⁵ The preservation of county archives has been greatly aided by an act to provide for the copying of old, worn-out records,⁶ and by a law authorizing the transfer of county records having historic value to the Illinois State Historical Library or to the State University Library at Urbana.⁷ Provision is made in this act for the substitution of accurate copies of these documents if such action be deemed necessary. In 1907 the act was amended to include among the institutions to which old records might be sent, any historical society incorporated and located within a particular county.⁸ Laws have also been enacted which provide for the restoration of certain classes of records destroyed by fire or other means.⁹ In 1935 the General Assembly appropriated money for the construction of a fireproof building at Springfield for the purpose of storing therein the archives and records of the state.¹⁰ The erection of this structure, the State Archives Build-

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1. L.1819, p. 27; R.L.1827, p. 288,289; R.S.1874, p. 694,695.
 2. L.1842-43, p. 210-12; L.1877, p. 209; L.1901, p. 301-4; L.1903, p. 315, 317,318; L.1915, p. 667.
 3. L.1819, p. 332.
 4. L.1842-43, p. 210.
 5. L.1845, p. 46.
 6. L.1871-72, p. 648,649.
 7. L.1897, p. 205.
 8. L.1907, p. 375.
 9. L.1871-72, p. 649,650,652.
 10. L.1935, p. 138.

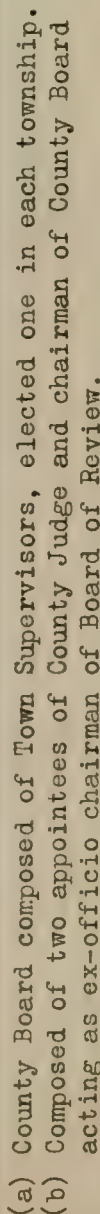
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ing, has helped to make possible the inauguration of an intelligent, far-sighted program for the preservation of papers and documents of historic value.

There are still serious omissions in legislation pertaining to recordation. For instance, Illinois has no law prescribing the kinds of inks to be used in keeping records. And, although laws have been enacted authorizing the provision of fireproof accommodations for county documents, they are permissive rather than mandatory in character.¹ Legislation enabling the destruction of worthless archives apparently is nonexistent with the exception of laws relating to certain election papers.² The enactment of legislation which would remedy these defects in the laws and continue the trend toward state-wide uniformity among counties would result in an intelligent, economical records system for the State of Illinois.

1. L.1842-43, p. 210; L.1845, p. 46.

2. L.1861, p. 269; L.1871-72, p. 389; L.1885, p. 145,193; L.1891, p. 118,119; L.1917, p. 438,444,445; L.1937, p. 525,526.



3. ROSTER OF COUNTY OFFICERS*

(Date after name of officer refers to
date of commission, unless otherwise stated)

County Court

(From creation of county in 1859 to institution of township
form of government in 1868, county business was
administered by county judge and two asso-
ciate justices acting as county board)

James Ewing, county judge,	Thomas S. Sluss, county judge,
John D. Murdock, Robert Hopkins,	November 21, 1865,
associate justices, April 20, 1859	John Brown, J. J. Henry,
Francis C. Mullen, county judge,	associate justices,
John D. Murdock, Caleb Bales,	December 7, 1865 (elected)
associate justices, December 3, 1861	

County Board of Supervisors

The several township supervisors, one elected from each township, together with any additional and assistant supervisors elected upon proportional representation, make up the membership of the county board of supervisors. Because these supervisors, severally, are township officials, and only as a group constitute the county board, they are not

* This list was compiled from the following sources, with exceptions as noted:

- A. Secretary of State. Index Department, Election Returns. Returns from County Clerk to Secretary of State 1809-47, 78 volumes (1-78), third tier, bay 1. 1848--, 53 file drawers (2-54), third tier, bay 2, State Archives Building, Springfield.
- B. Secretary of State. Executive Department. Certificates of Qualification. 1819--, 22 file drawers (1-22), fourth tier, bay 5, State Archives Building, Springfield.
- C. (1) Secretary of State. Executive Department Official Records. List of Commissions Issued to County Officers. 1809-1918, 5 volumes, fourth tier, bay 6, State Archives Building, Springfield.
(2) Secretary of State. Executive Department Official Records. List of Commissions Issued to County Officers. 1869--, 4 volumes, room 208, second floor, Secretary of State's Office, Executive Department, State Capitol Building, Springfield.

Roster of County Officers

County Board of Supervisors (cont.)

commissioned by the state as county officers, and no data concerning them, from which a list could be compiled, are kept by the state. For the same reason, county records, too, are inadequate for the compilation of a complete and accurate list of supervisors. Therefore, due to these and other limitations, only those members mentioned in county records in connection with the first recorded meeting of the board of supervisors are included in this roster.

At the general election held November 5, 1867, township form of government was adopted by the electorate. John B. McCann, Henry B. Evans, and Lucius McAllister were appointed by the county court as special commissioners to divide the county into townships.¹ On March 2, 1868, they reported the following named eight townships and the boundaries thereof: Newman, Camargo, Tuscola, Garrett, Sargent, Deer Creek, Arcola, and Bourbon.²

On May 11, 1868, pursuant to a call of one third of the members, the first (special) meeting of the board of supervisors was held at the courthouse in Tuscola. Following were the supervisors present, and the townships each represented:

Caleb Garrett,	Garrett Township	George W. Henson,	Camargo Township
Lemuel Chandler,	Bourbon "	Benjamin Bowdre,	Deer Creek "
Asa T. Whitney,	Arcola "	Benjamin W. Hooe,	Newman "
Oliver C. Hacket,	Tuscola "	Isaac W. Burget,	Sargent "

Caleb Garrett was elected chairman for the ensuing year. Also, at this same meeting, the name Deer Creek was changed to Bowdre inasmuch as there was another town of that name in Tazewell County.³

County Clerks (Clerks of the county court and of the county board of supervisors)

John Chandler,
April 20, 1859,
December 3, 1861
William H. Lamb,
November 21, 1865

John C. Parcel,
November 22, 1869
Daniel O. Root,
November 20, 1873,
December 1, 1877

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1. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 498.
 2. Ibid., p. 513, 514. On March 7, 1882, the board granted a petition for the organization of Murdock Township. Supervisors' Record, v. A, p. 9.
 3. Supervisors' Record, v. A, p. 1.

Roster of County Officers

County Clerks (cont.)

John N. Outcalt,	November 27, 1906,
December 1, 1882	November 26, 1910,
R. Fletcher Helm,	November 24, 1914,
December 6, 1886	November 26, 1918,
John W. King,	November 27, 1922,
November 26, 1890,	December 1, 1926
November 21, 1894	Clyde M. Larimer,
Charles A. Hawkins,	November 19, 1930,
November 25, 1898,	November 19, 1934
November 17, 1902,	Burley S. Burgett, ¹

County Judges

James Ewing,	William W. Reeves,
April 20, 1859	November 19, 1902
Francis C. Mullen,	Walter J. Dolson,
December 3, 1861	November 26, 1906,
Thos. S. Sluss,	November 26, 1910
November 21, 1865,	D. Herman Wamsley,
November 22, 1869	November 24, 1914,
Noah Amen,	November 29, 1918
December 1, 1873	D. H. Wamsley,
James K. Breedon,	November 27, 1922,
December 1, 1877	December 1, 1926,
William H. Bassett,	June 23, 1927
December 1, 1882,	Harley C. Helm (vice
December 6, 1886,	Wamsley, resigned),
November 28, 1890,	November 17, 1927,
November 20, 1894,	December 1, 1930,
November 25, 1898	November 19, 1934

Circuit Court Clerks

Andrew G. Wallaco,	Patrick C. Sloan,
April 20, 1859,	November 19, 1872,
November 30, 1860,	November 26, 1876
November 19, 1864,	Daniel A. Conover,
November 23, 1868	December 1, 1880,

1. Shown as county clerk in Official List of State and County Officers of Illinois July 1, 1939, compiled by Edward J. Hughes, Secretary of State, p. 14.

Roster of County Officers

Circuit Court Clerks (cont.)

(Daniel A. Conover)	November 25, 1884,	November 25, 1912,
November 25, 1884,	December 3, 1888,	November 23, 1916
November 22, 1892,	November 22, 1892,	Henry Wallace,
December 7, 1896	December 7, 1896	November 24, 1920,
Ernor W. Jeffers,	February 9, 1899,	November 25, 1924,
February 9, 1899,	April 18, 1899,	November 30, 1928
April 18, 1899,	November 30, 1900,	Frank L. Reeder (vice
November 30, 1900,	November 30, 1904	Wallace, deceased),
November 30, 1904	Oliver L. Parker,	August 5, 1930,
Oliver L. Parker,	June 12, 1908 (appointed)	December 26, 1930
June 12, 1908 (appointed)	Henry B. Morgan,	James E. Payne,
Henry B. Morgan,	November 24, 1908,	December 2, 1932
November 24, 1908,		Everett R. McCumber,
		November 25, 1936

Sheriffs
(County collectors to 1868)

Samuel B. Logan,	April 20, 1859	John L. Goff,	December 6, 1886
Pamenas Watson,	November 22, 1860	Joshua C. Cutler,	November 26, 1890
William T. French,	November 11, 1862	Frank D. Bagley,	November 20, 1894
Isaac L. Jordan,	November 19, 1864	Compos A. Moon,	December 5, 1898
Henry C. Carico,	November 13, 1866	A. J. Baker,	November 17, 1902
N. Rice Gruelle,	November 28, 1868	John L. Fidler,	November 23, 1906
Newton J. Cooper,	December 3, 1870	Calob G. Stovall,	November 23, 1910
James H. Shawhan (vice	Cooper, removed),	Clifford N. Jones,	November 24, 1914
August 5, 1871	Francis G. Cunningham,	Mollville C. Jones (vice C. N.	Jones, deceased),
November 27, 1872,	November 12, 1874,	November 9, 1918	
November 25, 1876	Westford Taggart. (vice	Fred B. Parker,	November 26, 1918
Westford Taggart. (vice	Cunningham, deceased),	Harley M. Eilars,	November 22, 1922
August 15, 1877,	December 2, 1878	Otto R. Twiford,	December 1, 1926
Thomas S. Wyatt,	December 1, 1880,	Andrew Knapp,	December 1, 1930
December 1, 1883		Clark Edwards,	November 27, 1934

Roster of County Officers

Coroners

Harvey D. Bassett,
April 20, 1859
James L. Roat,
November 30, 1860
James M. Wilkinson,
November 11, 1862
William A. Smith,
November 8, 1864 (elected)
Fletcher Wallace,
November 30, 1866
N. W. Chapman,
November 7, 1868
Frank V. Lamkon,
December 3, 1870
O. S. Brown,
December 5, 1872
William S. Martin,
November 30, 1874
Samuel T. Spoos,
November 27, 1876
Robert B. Easley,
December 2, 1878
Cyrus Rutherford,
December 1, 1880
William F. Pulliam,
December 1, 1883,

December 1, 1884
Frederick T. Spoos,
December 3, 1888,
December 3, 1892,
November 25, 1894,
November 3, 1898 (elected)
Owen M. Slater (vice Spoos,
deceased),
May 2, 1900,
November 30, 1900
George A. Denman,
December 1, 1904
Cyrus W. Rutherford (vice
Denman),
March 11, 1908,
November 24, 1908
W. E. Rice,
November 25, 1912
Raymond C. Gillogley,
November 23, 1916,
November 24, 1920,
November 25, 1924,
November 30, 1928
Myron E. Boylson,
November 19, 1932
R. C. Gillogley,
December 4, 1936

State's Attorneys

(Elected by circuit district electorate 1849 to 1872)

R. B. Macpherson,
April 30, 1872
Perry M. Moore,
November 24, 1876
Frank E. Wright,
December 1, 1880,
November 25, 1884
William J. Ammen (vice
Wright, deceased),
January 7, 1888
John K. Breeden,
December 3, 1888
John H. Chadwick,
November 21, 1892,
December 7, 1896,
November 30, 1900

Frank T. Roloson,
November 28, 1904
J. M. Newman,
November 24, 1908
W. Thomas Coleman,
November 25, 1912
S. S. Du Hamel,
November 23, 1916
Robert F. Cotton,
November 24, 1920,
November 25, 1924,
November 30, 1928
Harry L. Pate,
December 2, 1932
Charles W. Dotson,
November 27, 1936

Roster of County Officers

Treasurers

(Assessor to 1868 and supervisor of assessments
1898 to date; collector 1868 to date)

William Hancock,
April 20, 1859
Michael Noel,
November 17, 1859
George W. Flinn,
November 5, 1861 (elected)
V. C. McVeer,
November 18, 1863
Henry B. Evans,
November 21, 1865,
November 20, 1867
Jas. T. Walker,
November 22, 1869,
January 5, 1872
James M. Cox,
December 1, 1873
Henry R. Ingraham,
November 27, 1875,
December 1, 1877
Lines L. Parker,
December 1, 1878,
November 4, 1879 (elected),
December 1, 1883
Thomas S. Wyatt,
December 6, 1886

Lawrence E. Root,
December 1, 1890
James Jones,
November 28, 1894
Henry C. Jones,
December 7, 1898
Oliver L. Parker,
November 17, 1902
Charles McDonald,
November 23, 1906
George R. Duncan,
November 26, 1910
James E. Payne,
November 24, 1914
Theo. F. Howard,
November 26, 1918
Dale F. Howard,
November 27, 1922
Theodore F. Howard,
December 1, 1926
Dale F. Howard,
December 1, 1930
Charles E. Heaton
November 27, 1934

Superintendents of Schools (School commissioners to 1865)

William Sipple,
April 20, 1859
Samuel S. Irwin,
November 17, 1859
Charles F. Lamb,
December 4, 1861
W. W. Monroe,
November 18, 1863,
November 21, 1865
Samuel T. Callaway,
November 22, 1869,
December 1, 1873
Charles W. Woolverton (vice
Callaway, deceased),
July 19, 1875

John W. King,
November 27, 1875,
December 1, 1877
Joseph R. Burres,
December 1, 1883
Nora A. Smith,
December 6, 1886,
December 26, 1890
Mamie Bunch,
November 24, 1894
Thomas M. Welles,¹
December 1, 1898
Joseph O'Neal,
November 27, 1900

1. See Historical Sketch, this Inventory, p. 47.

Roster of County Officers

Superintendent of Schools (cont.)

Annie E. Rogers,	November 27, 1922
November 17, 1902	Neil F. Taylor,
Edward E. Gero,	December 1, 1926
November 23, 1906,	Luther J. Black,
November 26, 1910,	August 5, 1931,
November 24, 1914,	August 30, 1935
November 26, 1918,	

Surveyors

(Beginning September, 1936, surveyor appointed
by county board of supervisors)

Henry C. Niles,	November 4, 1879 (elected)
April 20, 1859,	Wm. E. Price,
November 17, 1859	December 1, 1883,
Issacher Davis,	November 4, 1884 (elected),
December 3, 1861	December 3, 1888 " 1
Enos C. Siler,	December 3, 1892,
November 18, 1863,	November 3, 1896 (elected),
December 29, 1865	November 30, 1900,
Issacher Davis,	December 1, 1904,
November 20, 1867	November 3, 1908 (elected),
Edmund Fish,	November 5, 1912 " ,
November 22, 1869	November 7, 1916 " ,
Henry C. Niles,	November 2, 1920 " ,
January 5, 1872	November 4, 1924 " ,
Issacher Davis,	November 30, 1928 "
November 11, 1875	Troy O. Timm,
James W. Drennen,	November 8, 1932 (elected)
December 1, 1878,	

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1. December 3, 1888 is believed to be the date of commission rather than that of election. Other officers are shown commissioned as of this date. Regular elections were held in November, and the first commission received by Price as of December 1, 1883, was for election November 7, 1882.

4. HOUSING, CARE, AND ACCESSIBILITY OF THE RECORDS

The first courthouse in Douglas County, after the selection of Tuscola as the permanent seat of justice,¹ was a two-story, frame building² that had been erected at a total cost of \$1,940.41.³ Contracts for the construction of this courthouse had been awarded to Michael Noel and William Chambers on June 4, 1860⁴ and exactly twenty months later the building was accepted by the county.⁵ Pending the completion of the building, the county clerk's office was located in the Stanley House and the circuit clerk's in another building in the business section of Tuscola.⁶

It was understood from the beginning that this was to be a temporary courthouse; indeed, its appearance was rather that of a warehouse than a public building,⁷ and when in the summer of 1863, it had to be completely replastered,⁸ the court began to discuss plans for a new courthouse. On March 11, 1864, the court decided to visit the northern part of the state to examine the different courthouses and study the latest improvements in this type of building.⁹ Two weeks later, on March 28, the court authorized O. S. Kinney, a Chicago architect, to draw up plans and specifications for a combination courthouse and jail.¹⁰

The enabling acts creating most of Illinois counties prior to the establishment of Douglas County, provided for the donation of twenty acres of land or more for a county seat, but the act creating Douglas contained no such provision. On April 29, 1859, the day following the first meeting of the county court, John Chandler, county clerk, was authorized to receive donations of cash and lots for the establishment of a county seat either in Tuscola or Arcola.¹¹ A year later, on March 29, another appeal for suitable lots was made,¹² but it is evident that not many citizens

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1. See Historical Sketch, p. 18.
 2. County of Douglas, Illinois (Chicago: F. A. Battey and Co., 1834), p. 66.
 3. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 62,87,117.
 4. Ibid., p. 62.
 5. Ibid., p. 117.
 6. County of Douglas, Illinois, p. 66.
 7. Ibid.
 8. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 218.
 9. Ibid., p. 249.
 10. Ibid., p. 251.
 11. Ibid., p. 2. See Historical Sketch, p. 20.
 12. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 47.

Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records

heeded this call.¹ When it was decided to erect the first permanent courthouse, the Town Company of Tuscola, offered to the county, block C of the original Town of Tuscola, provided that the new courthouse would be built within four years after March 17, 1864. Furthermore, the land was to revert to the grantors if this property ceased to be used by the county for the purpose for which it was intended.²

With the site selected, contracts were awarded, April 26, 1864 for the construction work. George and Henry Hebard (Hebbard) were awarded the masonry contract for \$15,000; C. B. Leach received the carpentry contract for \$7,000, and the architect, O. S. Kinney, was allowed \$750 for plans and specifications.³ The agreement called for the completion of all work on the courthouse by September, 1865, but after various payments to the contractors and extension of the time for consummation of the original contract from September 1, to October 30, 1865, the Hebards defaulted on their agreement because of a sharp advance in prices on material and labor.⁴ After threatening to sue for \$10,000,⁵ the county board finally agreed to allow the Hebards to continue their work, and itself assume the responsibility for the completion of the courthouse. The Hebards were to be allowed reasonable compensation for their work and, further, they were to reimburse the carpentry contractor, C. B. Leach, for his losses to the amount of \$950. The county also increased the amount all contractors were to receive, except the Hebards, by twenty percent.⁶ The courthouse was finally completed in the Spring of 1866 at a total cost of \$32,835.32.⁷ Meanwhile, on February 6, 1866, Leonard J. Wyeth was commissioned to sell the old courthouse.⁸

The new courthouse was a three-story, brick building. Located on the first floor, which was two feet below ground level, were the county jail and jailer's living quarters. On the upper two floors were county offices and courtrooms.

This courthouse served the county for nearly fifty years. When the necessity to build a new one again became increasingly pressing, the question of erecting it was submitted to a vote at a special election, held April 6, 1909.⁹ The result of the election was favorable, but not until after two and one-half years, was work on this newest courthouse initiated

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1. The county court paid to Noel and Chambers, builders of the temporary courthouse, \$100 in lieu of certain lots which had been pledged to the county but whose owners refused to surrender. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 117, 149.
 2. County of Douglas, Illinois, p. 66. See Historical Sketch, p. 22.
 3. County Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 253.
 4. Ibid., p. 361.
 5. Ibid., p. 362.
 6. Ibid., p. 363, 364.
 7. Ibid., p. 251, 253, 283, 284, 290-96, 313, 326, 334, 335, 352-62, 378, 381, 382, 388, 392, 401, 402, 405, 469. Cf. Historical Sketch, p. 22.
 8. Ibid., p. 382.
 9. Supervisors' Record, v. E, p. 138.

Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records

and contracts awarded in September, 1911. However, the physical condition of the old courthouse proved to be such that even before construction work could begin, it became necessary to build temporary vaults at a cost of \$680.33, and to lease a hall, on August 17, 1911, from the Modern Woodmen of America for the use of the court.¹

Plans for the new courthouse were prepared by J. W. Royer,² and the contract for construction was awarded, September 14, to William M. Allen, Son and Company, of Peoria, Illinois, for the sum of \$110,000.³ The plumbing and heating contract was let to Carson and Payson for \$7,550.⁴ On March 5, 1912, other contracts for additional work, amounting to \$10,966.55 were awarded, as well as contracts for furniture and furnishings amounting to \$16,234.58.⁵ The total cost of this courthouse amounted to approximately \$145,000, not including the architect's fees. In the Spring of 1913, the building was ready for occupancy and the board of supervisors set March 27 as the day of formal dedication.⁶ Within a year of that date the courthouse, with all furnishings, was paid for in full.⁷

This courthouse is a distinctive building of neoclassic design. It is located in the center of an entire square, bounded by Houghton, Court, Van Allen, and Center streets. Built of concrete, stone, brick, and steel, it is three stories in height with a basement. Its width is 97 feet, depth 115 feet, and height 52 feet. The main entrance is on the west, facing Center Street. The broad steps leading up to this entrance are flanked by two ornamental light standards on massive concrete blocks in which are set artistic memorial plaques. There is another entrance on the east side of the building facing Court Street. Corridors, 18 feet wide, at both entrances, lead into a roomy, central lobby upon which most of the offices on the first floor open. Here are located the offices of the superintendent of schools, superintendent of public welfare and old age assistance, the surveyor, superintendent of highways, the county nurse, and the supervisors' room. Besides these, there are also: a room reserved for the use of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, a janitor's room, and men's and women's restrooms. Wide stairways, at the north and south entrances, lead to the second floor where, on each side of the square central hall, are located the offices of the county treasurer, the sheriff, circuit clerk, and county clerk, and also the county courtroom and the judge's chambers. The stairway at the east end continues on to the third floor on which are located the circuit courtroom, law library, judge's chambers, counsel room, two jury rooms, state's attorney's suite, a grand jury room, the office of the master in chancery, and men's and women's restrooms. The basement is almost entirely unfinished.

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1. Supervisors' Record, v. E, p. 218,221.
 2. Ibid., p. 218.
 3. Ibid., p. 242.
 4. Ibid.
 5. Ibid., p. 273.
 6. Ibid., p. 304.
 7. Ibid., p. 338.

Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records

there being only a common vault in the south-center, in use. (For detailed floor plans of courthouse, see pages 108-111.)

All the offices have floors of concrete, covered with wood, and the vaults have floors of concrete only. The walls in all offices and depositories are plastered, except the common vault where brick and tile are used. Natural light and ventilation are well provided for throughout the courthouse; the treasurer's vault, however, has no windows. Tropic cord electric lighting is used throughout.

Accommodations for consultants of the records, generally are excellent though none are provided in the common vault and in the offices of the treasurer and state's attorney. Complete absence of shelving in the common vault makes it necessary to stack record volumes on the floor. The common vault is dusty, too, as are also the treasurer's and circuit clerk's vaults and the surveyor's office. Otherwise, the physical condition of all offices and record depositories is quite satisfactory with ample space for expansion.

Besides the depositories contained in the courthouse there are certain Douglas County officials whose offices and records are located at their homes or places of business. Thus, the coroner's office is located in that official's residence on Yates Street, Newman; the state's attorney's office is in the Fry Building, at 132-134 W. Sale Street, Tuscola; the adult probation officer has his office at his residence, 310 East Houghton Street, Tuscola; the superintendent of the Douglas County Hospital keeps his records in his office at the hospital, 700 N. Main Street, Tuscola; and the superintendent of the county farm has his office at the county farm, U. S. Route 36.

The allocation of county records, by offices, is as follows: county board, in the county clerk's vault and the common vault; county clerk, in his office, circuit clerk's vault, treasurer's vault, and the common vault; recorder, in the circuit clerk's vault and the common vault; county court, in the county clerk's office, county clerk's vault, and the common vault; probate court, in the county clerk's vault; circuit court, in the circuit clerk's office, the circuit clerk's vault, the common vault, and in the adult probation officer's home; sheriff, in his office and the common vault; coroner, in his office and the circuit clerk's vault; state's attorney, in his office; supervisor of assessments, in the treasurer's office; board of review, in the county clerk's vault; county collector, in the treasurer's office, the treasurer's vault, and the common vault; county treasurer, in his vault and the common vault; superintendent of schools, in his office and the common vault; superintendent of highways, in his office and the county clerk's vault; surveyor, in his office; county farm, in the superintendent's office; county hospital, in the superintendent's office; department of public welfare, in the old age assistance office; and county nurse, in her office. (For detailed information on the individual depositories, with a description of facilities for the housing of records, as well as percent of records stored therein, see charts on pages 106, 107.)

Housing, Care, and Accessi-
bility of the Records

The Douglas County courthouse is well equipped to care for the needs of county records for many years. The unfinished basement will provide ample storage space when necessity forces expansion of existing facilities. About ninety-five percent of the county records are stored in the fire-proof vaults. Provisions for careful housing and maintenance of records, with a view toward their best preservation, have, therefore, been carried out. Binding and repair of record volumes are under direct supervision of the county board. Indexing and filing of records follow systems adopted and employed by a majority of the other counties in Illinois.

CHARTS SHOWING HOUSING FACILITIES AND PERCENTAGES OF RECORDS
DOUGLAS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, Center, Van Allen, Court, and Houghton Streets, Tuscola
(Three stories and basement; brick, stone, concrete, and steel construction; 580,060 cubic feet)

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
County Clerk's Office	2nd N.W.	12x19x46	Steel	84	16 f.b.	2½	Co. Ct. 1 f.b. copies of reports of Justices of the Peace
County Clerk's Vault	2nd N.W.	12x18x38	Steel	1600	398 f.b. 2 f.d.	18	Co. Bd. 98; Pro. Ct. 100; Co. Ct. 80; Bd. of Review 100; Supt. of Hwys. 5; Supt. of Schools ½
Circuit Clerk's Office	2nd S.W.	12x19x46	--	--	-- -- --	--	Cir. Ct. 17
Circuit Clerk's Vault	2nd S.W.	12x18x38	Steel	609	413 f.b.	--	Co. Clk. ½; Rec. 95; Cir. Ct. 75; Cor. 45
Sheriff's Office	2nd S.	12x12x38	Steel	5	-- -- --	44	
Treasurer's Office	2nd S.E.	12x19x46	Wood	15	-- -- --	--	Supervisor of Assessments 100; Coll. 17
Treasurer's Vault	2nd S.E.	7x7x14	Steel	112	7 f.b.	80	Co. Clk. 18; Coll. 45; Supt. of Schools ½
Office of Supt. of Highways	1st N.	12x20x32	Wood	40	1 f.b. 19 f.d.	95	
Surveyor's Office	1st S.E.	12x19x29	Steel	10	40 f.b. 3 f.d.	100	
Office of Supt. of Schools	1st S.W.	12x19x46	Steel	128	4 f.b.	97	
Old Age Assistance Office	1st S.	12x18x38	Wood	24	2 f.b. 4 f.d.	100	
County Nurse's Office	1st N.	12x18x38	--	--	5 f.b. 14 f.d.	100	
Common Vault	Bsmt. S.	7x20x38	Wood	20	-- -- --	--	Co. Bd. 2; Co. Clk. 61; Rec. 5; Co. Ct. 20; Cir. Ct. 7; Sh. 56; Coll. 38; Treas. 20; Supt. of Schools 2

Dr. R. C. GILLOGLY*, Yates Street, Newman
(Residence; one story; brick; 4,320 cubic feet)

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Coroner's Office	1st	10x12x12	- - -	- - -	- - -	55	

*Dr. R. W. Taylor, Post Office Building, Villa Grove, vice Dr. Gillogly, resigned.

FRY BUILDING, 132-134 West Sale Street, Tuscola
(Two stories; brick; 28,800 cubic feet)

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Office of State's Attorney	1st	10x12x16	Steel Safe	1	- - -	100	

ALVA MEESE, 310 East Houghton Street, Tuscola
(Residence; two stories; frame; 24,000 cubic feet)

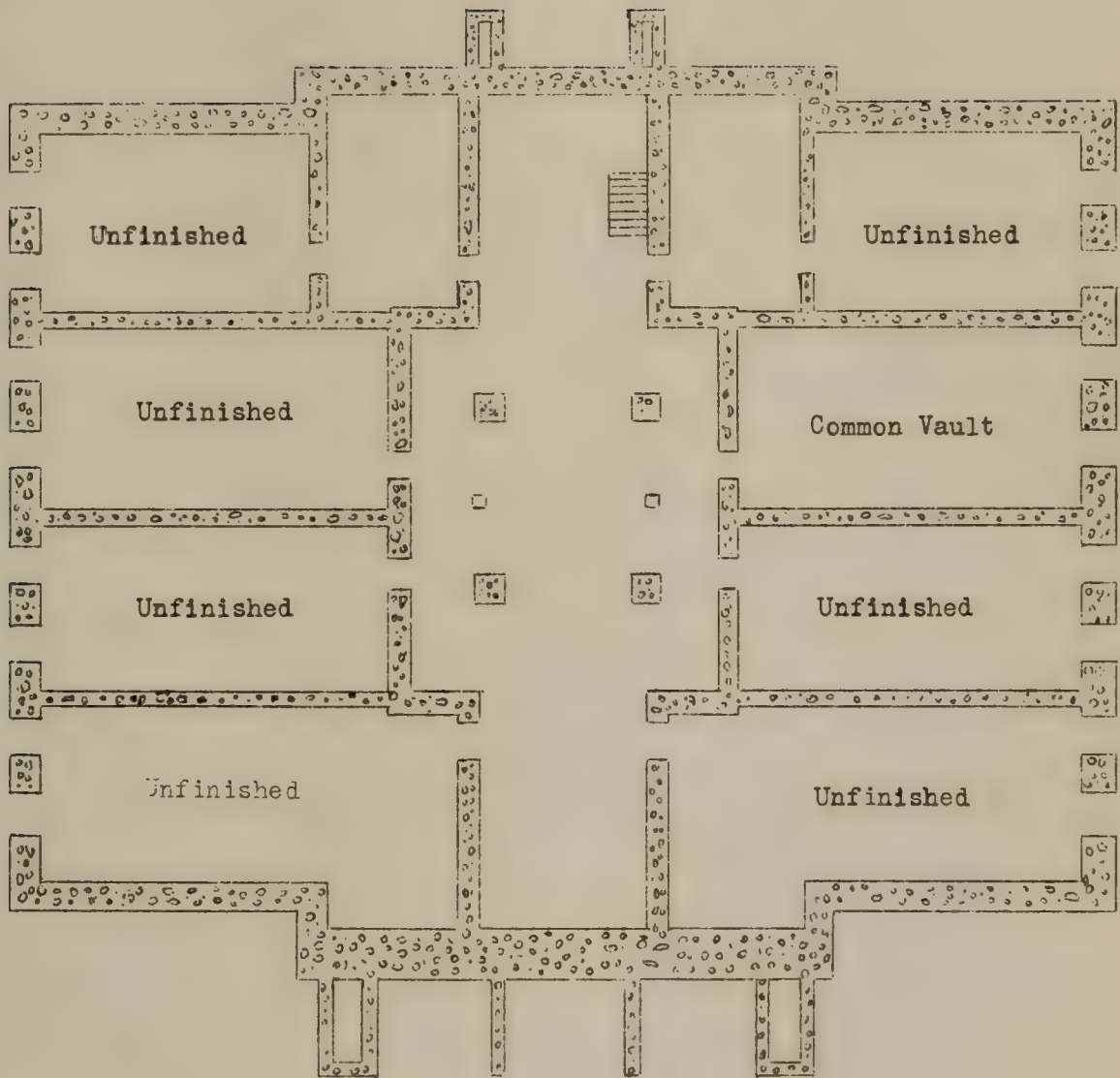
Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Adult Probation Officer's Office	1st	8x16x20	- - -	- - -	4 f. b.	- -	Circuit Court 1

DOUGLAS COUNTY HOSPITAL, 700 North Main Street, Tuscola
(Two stories; brick, stone, and tile; 96,000 cubic feet)

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Superintendent's Office	1st	10x12x24	- - -	- - -	8 f. b. 4 f. d.	100	

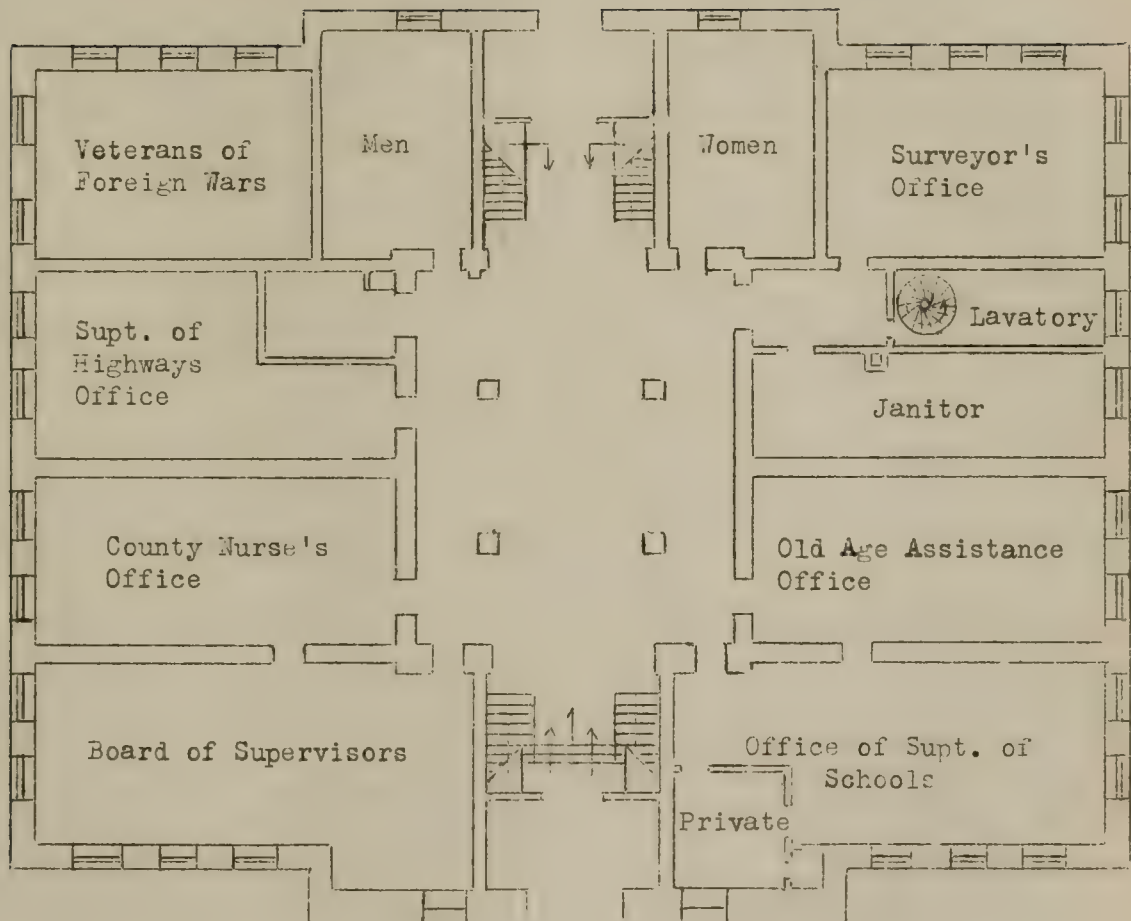
DOUGLAS COUNTY HOME, 2½ miles east of Tuscola, on U.S. Route 36
(Two stories and basement; frame; 48,000 cubic feet)

Depository	Floor Location	Dimensions	Shelving		Number of Containers	Percent of Records	
			Type	Feet		Own	Others
Superintendent's Office	1st	10x16x16	- - -	- - -	- - -	100	



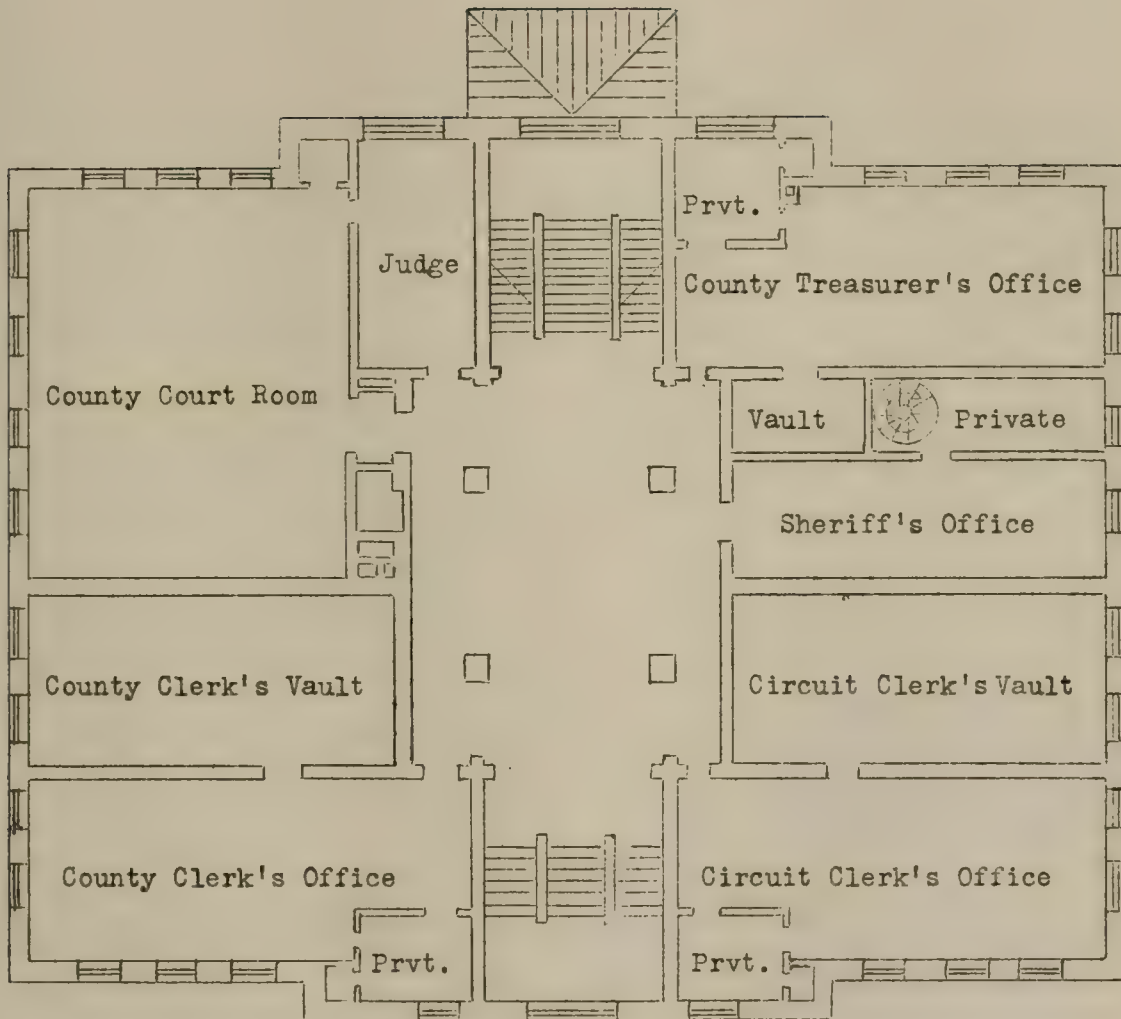
DOUGLAS COUNTY COURTHOUSE

BASEMENT and FOUNDATION



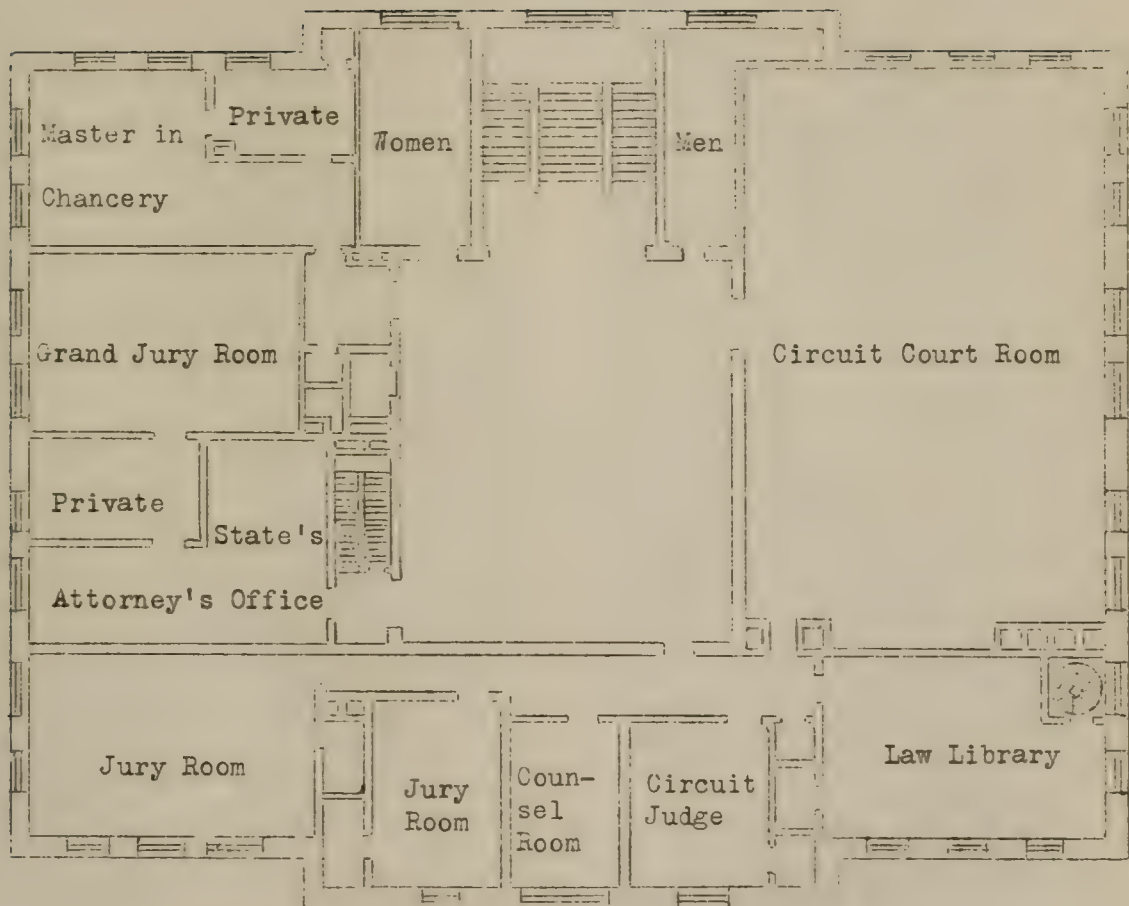
DOUGLAS COUNTY COURTHOUSE

FIRST FLOOR



DOUGLAS COUNTY COURTHOUSE

SECOND FLOOR



DOUGLAS COUNTY COURTHOUSE

THIRD FLOOR

5. ABBREVIATIONS, SYMBOLS, AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

alph.	alphabetical(ly)
app.	appendix
arr.	arranged (arrangement)
Art.	Article
assr.	assessor
atty.	attorney
aud.	auditor
bd.	board
bdl.	bundle(s)
bldg.	building
bsmt.	basement
cf.	confer (compare)
ch.	chapter(s)
chron.	chronological(ly)
cir.	circuit
clk.	clerk
co.	county
coll.	collector
cont.	continued
cor.	coroner
ct.	court
dept.	department
ed.	edited, edition
f.b.	file box(es)
f.d.	file drawer(s)
f., ff.	and following page(s)
fl.	floor
fm.	form
ft.	feet
hdgs.	headings
hdw.	handwritten
hwys.	highways
ibid.	ibidem (in the same place)
i.e.	id est (that is)
Ill.	Illinois Reports (Supreme Court)
Ill. App.	Illinois Appellate Court (Reports)
Ill. S.A.	Illinois Statutes Annotated
in.	inch(es)
infra	below or following
L.	Laws (of Illinois)
loc. cit.	loco citato (in the place cited)
mi.	mile(s)
n.	footnote(s)
no. (s)	number(s)
N.W.	Northwestern Reporter
off.	office

Abbreviations, Symbols, and Explanatory Notes

op. cit.	opere citato (in the work cited)
p.	page(s)
pr.	printed
pro.	probate
rec.	recorder
R.L.	Revised Laws (of Illinois)
rm.	room
R.S.	Revised Statutes (of Illinois)
sch.	school(s)
sec.	section(s)
sep.	separate
Sess.	Session
sh.	sheriff
Sp.	Special
strm.	storeroom
supra	above or preceding
supt.	superintendent
surv.	surveyor
treas.	treasurer
twp.(s)	township(s)
U.S.R.S.	United States Revised Statutes
U.S.Stats.L.	United States Statutes at Large
v.	volume(s)
vet.	veterinarian
vice	in place of
vlt.	vault
	current

1. Despite inaccuracies in spelling and punctuation, titles of records are shown in the inventory proper exactly as on volumes and file boxes. The current or most recent title is used as the title of the entry.

2. Explanatory additions to inadequate titles and corrections of erroneous titles are enclosed in parentheses and have initial capitals.

3. In the absence of titles, supplied titles are capitalized and enclosed in parentheses.

4. In the title set-up, letters or numbers in parentheses indicate the exact labeling on volumes or file boxes. If the volumes or file boxes are unlabeled, no labeling is indicated.

5. Title line cross references are used to complete series for records kept separately for a period of time, and in other records for different periods of time, as in entry 3, "1911-- in Supervisors' Record, entry 2." They are also used in all artificial entries - records which must be shown separately under their own proper office or section heading

Abbreviations, Symbols,
and Explanatory Notes

even though they are kept in files or records appearing elsewhere in the inventory, as in entry 6, "In (Miscellaneous Files), entry 98." In both instances, the description of the master entry shows the title and entry number of the record from which the cross reference is made, as in entry 2, "Also contains Petition for Aid to Build Bridges, 1911--, entry 3." Dates shown in the description of the master entry are only for the part or parts of the record contained therein, and are shown only when they vary from those of the master entry.

6. Separate third paragraph cross references from entry to entry, and "see also" references under subject headings, are used to show prior, subsequent, or related records which are not part of the same series.

7. Where no explanation of the beginning or for the discontinuance of a record is given, and where no cross reference appears, the information explaining such beginning or discontinuance could not be ascertained.

8. Unless the index is self-contained, an entry for the index immediately follows its record entry. Cross references are given for exceptions to this rule.

9. Records may be assumed to be in good condition unless otherwise indicated.

10. On maps and plat records, the names of author, engraver, and publisher, and information on scale have been omitted only when these data were not ascertainable.

11. Unless otherwise specified, all records are located in the county courthouse.

I. COUNTY BOARD

In Illinois, the county board is that body which exercises the corporate or politic power of the county.¹ In Douglas County since 1859² two bodies have successively acted as a county board; the county court and the board of supervisors.

The Constitution of 1848 provided for an administrative body to be composed of an elected officer, the county judge, and such number of justices of the peace as should be required by law.³ In the following legislative session, the General Assembly provided for the election of two justices of the peace to sit with the county judge to transact county business.⁴ Their term of office, like that of the county judge, was set at four years.⁵ This body, styled the county court, was required to hold four sessions annually and when so sitting, had all power, jurisdiction, and authority formerly conferred upon the county commissioners' court.⁶ The compensation of the county judge was originally set at \$2.50 for every day of holding court.⁷ In 1855 the amount was increased to \$3.00.⁸

The new constitution also directed the General Assembly to provide, by general law, for a township organization under which any county might organize whenever a majority of the voters in the county should so determine.⁹ By provision of the subsequent enabling acts,¹⁰ a board of supervisors, whose members were to be elected one in each township annually,¹¹ was created to transact all county business in counties adopting township organization.¹² The board of supervisors was to meet for one regular session a year with the provision that special meetings might be

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1. R.L.1827, p. 107; R.S.1845, p. 130; R.S.1874, p. 306.
 2. Douglas County was created in 1859, L.1859, p. 24,28.
 3. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16,17,19. The county administrative body in Illinois during the first constitutional period was the county commissioners' court. (Constitution of 1818, Schedule, sec. 4; L.1819, p. 175,176).
 4. L.1849, p. 65,66.
 5. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 17. L.1849, p. 62,65,66.
 6. L.1849, p. 65.
 7. Ibid., p. 63.
 8. L.1855, p. 181.
 9. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6.
 10. L.1849, p. 190-224; L.1851, p. 35-78. The later law repealed and was a complete substitute for the earlier, but so far as their effect on the sphere of county government is concerned, there was almost no difference between the two.
 11. L.1849, p. 192; L.1851, p. 38.
 12. L.1849, p. 202-4; L.1851, p. 50-52.

County Board

held when convenient.¹ The board members were compensated at the rate of \$2.00 a day,² and a fine was provided in the sum of \$200.00, for refusal to perform, or neglect of, duties.³

Douglas County was governed by a county court until 1868 when township organization was instituted.⁴ In 1870 Illinois adopted a new constitution which continued the provision for township organization in counties so electing,⁵ and provided for a different form of county board to supplant the county court as an administrative body. This board was to consist of three officers, styled county commissioners, and by subsequent legislation, given all powers, jurisdiction, and authority formerly vested in the county court when acting in its administrative capacity.⁶ As Douglas retained township organization from 1868 to the present, the county has never been affected by this change.

Since 1874, population has been recognized as a factor in local representation on the board of supervisors. In that year, each town or city, in addition to its regular supervisor, became entitled to one assistant supervisor if it had four thousand or more inhabitants, two if sixty-five hundred, and one more for every additional twenty-five hundred.⁷ The assistant supervisors, whose terms run concurrently with those of the regular supervisors,⁸ have no power or duties as town officers, but are members of the county board and enjoy the same powers and rights as other members.⁹ The population requirements in this respect have since changed, but have not affected Douglas County.¹⁰ At present its board of supervisors has nine members. The term

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1. L.1849, p. 202; L.1851, p. 51. In 1861 it was provided that special meetings could be called upon request of one-third of the members of the board (L.1861, p. 236). Since 1899 the board has been required to hold two regular meetings (L.1899, p. 363).
 2. In 1861 compensation was \$2.00 a day (L.1861, p. 238).
 3. The fine was \$200 in 1851. (L.1851, p. 52). Subsequent legislation reduced it and added the more frequent penalty for misfeasance, disqualification for office (R.S.1874, p. 1080).
 4. Douglas County adopted township organization in 1867, effective in 1868.
 5. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 5.
 6. Ibid., Art. X, sec. 6; L.1873-74, p. 79,80.
 7. R.S.1874, p. 1075.
 8. L.1933, p. 1115.
 9. R.S.1874, p. 1080; L.1925, p. 605; L.1929, p. 774; L.1931, p. 905, 907; L.1933, p. 1115.
 10. In 1931 a different set of population requirements was applied in counties of one hundred thousand or more inhabitants (L.1931, p. 908). Two years later the differentiating figure was reduced to ninety thousand (L.1933, p. 1116). Douglas County with its population 17,914 according to the 1930 U.S.Census was not affected at either time.

County Board

of office of supervisors, lengthened in 1889 to two years,¹ was further extended in 1931 to four years.² Compensation was increased from \$2.00 to \$5.00 a day in 1919,³ lowered to \$4.00 in 1933,⁴ and raised again to \$5.00 in 1937,⁵ with an allowance of five cents per mile for necessary travel.

The functions of the Illinois county board, in contrast to its legal status, have undergone little change since the beginning of statehood, the development being merely one of accretion and increasing complexity of duties within a well-defined and nearly static sphere of authority and jurisdiction. The law establishing the court of county commissioners conferred upon it jurisdiction in all matters concerning county revenue.⁶ Of this basic provision, nearly all other statutory powers of the court can be considered extensions; some, enunciated in the same law, already show such a legislative viewpoint. The court was given power to regulate and impose the county tax, and to grant such licenses as might also bring in a revenue; additionally, it was given authority over all public roads, canals, turnpike roads, and toll bridges.⁷ Other legislation by the first General Assembly gave the court power to buy and sell lots whereon to erect county buildings and to contract for their construction;⁸ later, in the case of the courthouse at least, the court was declared to have the care and custody of the property and the right to make certain disposition of it.⁹ Care of the indigent was also made a function of the court; it was required to make appropriations, to be levied and collected in the same manner as other county revenue, for their support. As an extension of this fiscal function, it was required to appoint an overseer of the poor in every township and establish a county poorhouse if necessary.¹⁰ Fiscal control over school lands was exercised at first solely through the court's power of appointment of the trustees of school lands;¹¹ after the creation of the office of county school commissioner,¹² firmer control was effected through the medium of reports which the commissioner was required to submit to the court.¹³ By the terms of another early provision, a significant precursor of many similar ones to be found in more recent years, the court also had authority to examine the full accounts of the commissioner.¹⁴ Other aspects of government which, if farther removed from the fiscal core, come early into this jurisdictional sphere,

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1. L.1889, p. 109; L.1917, p. 793; L.1925, p. 605.
 2. L.1931, p. 905.
 3. L.1857, p. 186; L.1871-72, p. 444; L.1919, p. 569.
 4. L.1933, p. 615.
 5. L.1937, p. 601.
 6. L.1819, p. 175.
 7. Ibid.
 8. Ibid., p. 237, 238.
 9. L.1843, p. 128.
 10. L.1819, p. 127; L.1839, p. 138, 139.
 11. R.L.1827, p. 366.
 12. R.L.1829, p. 150.
 13. L.1831, p. 175; R.S.1845, p. 500, 501.
 14. L.1831, p. 175.

County Board

are elections and juries. With regard to the former, the court was authorized to establish election precincts,¹ appoint judges of election,² and allow compensation to election officials for services and stationery.³ Its duty with regard to juries was relatively simple: it was required to select two panels each of petit and grand jurors. The former was required to be enrolled on the list of taxable inhabitants; the latter, only to be freeholders or householders.⁴

The substitution of the county court for the county commissioners' court produced no important changes in the sphere of government; neither the second constitution nor the enabling legislation made any original pronouncements with regard to the powers or duties of the former.⁵

The revised law on township organization, in the main, only made more inclusive and definite the powers of the board.⁶ The board was given authority to purchase and hold any land within the county for the use of its inhabitants; it was also given authority to make such contracts, and to purchase and hold such personal property as might be necessary to the exercise of its powers; moreover, it could make such for the disposition, regulation, or use of the corporate property as might seem to be to the interest of the inhabitants.⁷ Explicit also, was the authority to audit all claims against the county, and the accounts of such officers as were not otherwise provided for by law.⁸ The board was also given power to appropriate funds for the construction of roads and bridges in any part of the county whenever a majority of the whole board might deem it proper and expedient.⁹

From the enabling legislation of the present constitutional period is drawn the following brief statement of the principal functions of the county board:

1. The purchase, sale, and custody of the real and personal property of the county.
2. The examination and settlement of accounts against the county.

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1. L.1821, p. 74. There was in this law and in many of those following, a limit to the number of precincts which could be established. See L.1825, p. 168; R.L.1827, p. 255; R.L.1829, p. 54; L.1835, p. 141. Prior to 1821, each township was declared by statute to constitute an election district (L.1819, p. 90).
 2. L.1819, p. 90.
 3. Ibid., p. 99.
 4. Ibid., p. 255; L.1823, p. 182.
 5. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 65.
 6. The Act of February 17, 1851, previously cited (L.1851, p. 35-78).
 7. Ibid., p. 50.
 8. Ibid., p. 51.
 9. Ibid.

County Board

3. The issuance of orders on the county treasury in pursuance of its fiscal administration.
4. The examination of accounts concerning the receipts and expenditures of county officers.¹
5. The supervision of elections;² the selection of juries;³ the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges;⁴ the care of the indigent, infirm, and disabled.⁵
6. The appropriation of funds necessary to the affecting of its functions;⁶ the raising of such sums through taxation; and in general, the management of county funds and county business.⁷

At all times the county board has had a clerk who has served it in a ministerial capacity. The law creating the county commissioners' court provided that it should have such an officer, and gave it the power to appoint him.⁸ This appointive power was rescinded in 1837 by an act which made the office elective.⁹

When the county court supplanted the county commissioners' court, the office of clerk of the latter body ceased to exist. A new office was created by statute, that of clerk of the county court.¹⁰ When the court sat for the transaction of county business, its clerk was in effect a clerk of a county board; legal recognition of this distinction was given in the provision that the clerk should keep his records of the court's administrative actions separate from those of its judicial actions. For this purpose two sets of books were to be kept.¹¹

In 1870 the new constitution established the office of county clerk;¹² subsequently, the General Assembly provided that the county clerk should act as clerk of the county board¹³ as well as clerk of the county court.¹⁴ From that time to the present, the county board has been served in a ministerial capacity by this officer.

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1. R.S.1874, p. 306,307.
 2. Ibid., p. 456,468.
 3. Ibid., p. 630.
 4. Ibid., p. 310.
 5. Ibid., p. 757,758.
 6. Ibid., p. 307.
 7. Ibid., p. 306,307.
 8. L.1819, p. 175.
 9. R.L.1837, p. 49.
 10. L.1849, p. 63.
 11. Ibid., p. 66.
 12. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
 13. R.S.1874, p. 322.
 14. Ibid., p. 260.

The major record kept by the clerk for the county board is the minutes of its proceedings. This heterogeneous record includes orders to issue warrants on the county treasury; the board's consideration of the action on reports of committees of its members on roads and bridges, indigent and infirm relief, schools, taxation, etc.; and its orders in regard to juries, licenses, and other matters within its jurisdiction.¹

The clerk also keeps, separately, register of orders issued on the county treasury and lists of jury venire: files and preserves all bills of accounts acted on by the board; and has custody of reports required to be made to the board by the county treasurer, various school bodies, and a number of county officers.² An obligation to preserve a multiplicity of other records is clearly set forth in the general provision requiring the clerk to have the care and custody of all papers appertaining to, as well as filed in, his office.³

Proceedings of Board

1. (SUPERVISORS' PAPERS), 1928--. 42 f.b.

Supervisors' papers, including claims presented, allowed, and rejected, tax lists, special taxation records, salaries allowed, and county contracts. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed.
10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

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1. L.1819, p. 5,6,28,77,127,334,335,352; L.1823, p. 145,148; L.1826, p. 130,131; R.L.1829, p. 126,132-37,151-53; L.1831, p. 89,90; L.1835, p. 131,132,136; L.1839, p. 71,72; R.S.1845, p. 287,342,403,437; L.1849, p. 66; L.1861, p. 234-37; R.S.1874, p. 323.
 2. L.1819, p. 201,315; L.1825, p. 147; R.L.1827, p. 366; L.1845, p. 189; R.S.1845, p. 136; L.1861, p. 237; R.S.1874, p. 325.
 3. R.S.1874, p. 322.

2. SUPERVISORS' RECORD, 1859--. 9 v. (1 not lettered, A-H). Title varies: County Commissioners' Record.

Record of proceedings of county court acting as county board, 1859-67, and board of supervisors, 1868--, showing dates and minutes of meetings, with names of members present, bills and claims presented and allowed, tax levies, contracts awarded, jurors selected, reports of county officers, record of appropriations, motions, and other county business transacted. Also contains Petition for Aid to Build Bridges, 1911--, entry 3; Register of County Orders, 1859-67, entry 7; Record of Blind Benefits, 1926--, entry 15; (Register of Bonds), 1868-1921, entry 17; Superintendent's of Schools and State's Attorney's Reports, 1908--, entry 26; Record A (County Officials' Bond Record), 1859-75, entry 88; and Dog License Fund Record (and Sheep Claims Paid), 1893-1919, entry 295. Arr. by date of recording. 1859-67, indexed alph. by subject; 1868--, no index. 1859-81, hdw.; 1882-1907, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1908--, typed. 500 - 640 p. 18 x 12 x 2 - 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

3. PETITION FOR AID TO BUILD BRIDGES, 1894-1910. 1 v. 1911-- in Supervisors' Record, entry 2.

Copies of petitions of the township commissioners of highways to the board of supervisors for a fifty percent appropriation for bridge construction, showing date, name of township, location of work, and amount required. Arr. by date of petition. Indexed alph. by name of twp. Hdw. on pr. fm. 296 p. 13 x 9 x 11½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Disposition of Accounts

County Budget and Appropriations (See also entry 2)

4. BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION RECORD, 1933--. 3 v.

Register of appropriations of county funds to township and county departments, showing name of fund, date, amount and source of payment into each fund, date, nature, and amount of disbursement from each fund, and balances; includes insurance register. Also contains Treasurer's Account - County Funds, 1933--, entry 5, and Register of County Orders, 1933--, entry 7. Arr. by date of appropriation. No index. Typed under pr. hdgs. 450 p. 12 x 14 x 2½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

For prior register of insurance policies, see entry 7; for current insurance policies, see entry 18.

5. TREASURER'S ACCOUNT - COUNTY FUNDS, 1873-1925. 6 v. 1926-32 in Register of County Orders, entry 7; 1933-- in Budget and Appropriation Record, entry 4.

County board's register of receipts and expenditures of county funds reported by county treasurer, showing fund account, date and amounts received and paid out, name of recipient, and balance on hand. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 2½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

County Board - Disposition
of Accounts

(6-11)

Bills and Claims (See
also entries 1, 2)

6. (COUNTY CLAIMS), 1937--. In (Miscellaneous Files), entry 98. Original claims against county, showing name of claimant, and date, purpose, and amount of claim.

Registers of County Orders (See
also entries 288, 289, 322)

7. REGISTER OF COUNTY ORDERS, 1868-1932. 7 v. (A-C, 1-4). Title varies: Record of County Orders. 1859-67 in Supervisors' Record, entry 2; 1933-- in Budget and Appropriation Record, entry 4. Register of orders and warrants on county funds, including witness fees, jury certificates, 1912-32, and county highway salary tax orders, 1926-32, showing date, amount, and purpose of payment, warrant number, fund on which drawn, name of payee, and date of cancellation; includes insurance register. Also contains Treasurer's Account - County Funds, 1926-32, entry 5, and County Highway Warrant Register, 1868-1931, entry 8. Arr. by date of payment. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 640 - 800 p. 18 x 14 x 3 - 14 x 15 x 4. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

For subsequent register of insurance policies, see entry 4; for current insurance policies, see entry 18.

8. COUNTY HIGHWAY WARRANT REGISTER, 1932--. 1 v. 1868-1931 in Register of County Orders, entry 7. Register of warrants drawn on highway funds, showing name of payee, and date, number, purpose, and amount of warrant. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 340 p. 18 x 14 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Cancelled County Orders

9. (CANCELLED COUNTY ORDERS), 1912--. 30 f.b. Cancelled county orders issued in payment of bills and claims, showing date, amount, and number of order, fund from which drawn, name of payee, and date of cancellation. Arr. by date of cancellation. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

10. CERTIFICATES OF BIRTHS, STILLBIRTHS AND DEATHS (Stubs), 1916--. 3 v. Stub record of warrants issued in payment of fees for reporting births, stillbirths, and deaths, showing name of registrar, number and amount of warrant, and date of mailing. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 p. 17 x 14 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.
For prior account record, see entry 95.

11. COUNTY ORDERS, COUNTY HIGHWAY TAX (Stubs), 1922-25. 2 v. Stub record of county highway tax salary orders paid to highway employees, showing name of employee, and date, number, and amount of order. Arr. by order no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 p. 17 x 14 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

For subsequent records of highway tax salary orders, see entry 7.

County Board -
Management of County
Properties and Roads

12. WARRANTS - GROUNDHOGS, CROWS AND CROWS' EGGS, 1907-9. 1 v.
Discontinued.

Stub record of bounty warrants issued for destroying crows' eggs, crows, and groundhogs, showing date, number, and amount of warrant, name of payee, and date of payment. Arr. by date of warrant. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 450 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

13. (STUBS OF COUNTY WARRANTS), 1872-1925. 10 v.

Stub record of county warrants, showing date, amount, and number of warrant, name of payee, and reason for payment. Arr. by warrant no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 p. 17 x 14 x 1. 4 v., 1872-1908, common vlt., bsmt.; 6 v., 1909-25, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

14. JURORS' CERTIFICATES (Stubs), 1872-1911. 5 v.

Stub record of jury certificates, showing date, name of juror, mileage, days of service, and amount of payment. Arr. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 p. 17 x 14 x 1. 3 v., 1872-1905, common vlt., bsmt.; 2 v., 1906-11, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

For subsequent register of jury certificates, see entry 7.

Pension Funds and Applica-
tions (See also entry 98[i])

15. RECORD OF BLIND BENEFITS, 1903-25. 1 v. 1926-- in Super-
visors' Record, entry 2.

Register of applicants for blind relief, showing date, application number, name and address of applicant, and result of examination. Arr. by date of application. Indexed alph. by name of applicant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 100 p. 14 x 9 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

16. LIST OF PENSIONERS, 1893-1913. 1 v. Discontinued.

Register of payments of pensions prior to enactment of state pension laws, showing name and address of pensioner, date, month of issue, rate per month, amount of payment, and date of pensioner's death or deletion of name from list. Arr. alph. by name of pensioner. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 14 x 9 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Management of County Properties and Roads

Bond Issues (See
also entry 317)

17. (REGISTER OF BONDS), 1922--. 1 v. 1868-1921 in Supervisors'
Record, entry 2.

Register of township and school district bonds, showing date, purpose, amount, and number of bond, rate and amount of interest, date of maturity, and amount and date of payment of installments. Arr. by twp. and school district nos. No index. Hdw. 150 p. 17 x 15 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Insurance (See also
entries 4, 7)

18. INSURANCE POLICIES, 1933--. 1 bdl.
Original fire and tornado insurance policies covering county property.
Policies destroyed after expiration date. No obvious arr. No index.
Typed on pr. fm. 4 x 4 x 10. Co. clk.'s off., 2nd fl.

Road Transactions (See also
entries 316-322, 325-327)

19. (ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND), 1914--. In Supervisors' Bond Record -
Road and Bridge Fund, entry 90.
Record of road and bridge fund transactions, showing name of township,
itemized account of receipts and expenditures, and name of township
supervisor.

Reports to Board
(See also entry 2)

20. COUNTY OFFICERS' SEMIANNUAL REPORTS, 1893--. 1 f.b.
Semiannual reports of treasurer, sheriff, and circuit and county clerks
to county board, showing date, name of official, amount of fees earned
and received, amount of expenditures, and balance in fund. Arr. by
date of report. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Co.
clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

21. COUNTY OFFICERS' SEMIANNUAL REPORTS, 1893--. 1 v.
Register of semiannual reports of treasurer, sheriff, and circuit and
county clerks to county board, showing date, name of official, amounts
of fees earned and received, and amounts and purpose of expenditures.
Arr. by date of report. Indexed alph. by name of official. Hdw. under
pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

22. COLLECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORTS (County Officers' Reports), 1910--.
3 f.b.
Annual reports of treasurer, collector, sheriff, and circuit and county
clerks to county board, showing date, name of official, period covered
by report, and amounts of official receipts and expenditures. Arr. by
date of report. No index. Hdw. and typed. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Co. clk.'s
vlt., 2nd fl.

23. COUNTY CLERK'S AUDITED REPORTS, 1926--. 2 f.b.
Semiannual reports of county officers to county board, showing date,
amount, source, and purpose of receipts, and expenditures of various
funds. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. and typed. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13.
Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

24. (COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT'S OF SCHOOLS ANNUAL REPORT TO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS), 1928--. 25 f.b.

Annual report of superintendent of schools to board of supervisors showing detailed statements of financial, educational, maintenance, and construction transactions, and all other business transacted during fiscal year. Arr. by date of report. No index. Typed. 10 x 4½ x 13. Co. clk.'s off., 2nd fl.

25. SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS (Record), 1859-86. 1 v. Discontinued. Reports of school commissioners and superintendent of schools to county board, showing fines received from state's attorney and justices of the peace, number of acres in each school and fractional school township, amounts of state school tax and interest, deduction for distribution, and total amount for distribution to each township. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. 200 p. 14 x 9 x 1. Common vlt., bsmt.

26. SUPERINTENDENT'S OF SCHOOLS AND STATE'S ATTORNEY'S REPORTS, 1892-1907. 1 v. 1908-- in Supervisors' Record, entry 2.

Record of the reports of superintendent of schools and state's attorney to county board, showing dates and amounts of receipts and expenditures, number of persons employed, payrolls, nature of business transacted for county, affidavit of correctness, and date of approval. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Jury Lists

(See also entries 2, 7, 14, 148, 172, 255-257)

27. (JURY VENIRES), 1906--. In (Miscellaneous Files), entry 98.

Jury venires showing name of person chosen and date of court term.

II. COUNTY CLERK

The Constitution of 1848 and laws of 1849 created a new judicial branch of county government presided over by the county judge and entitled the "county court," and provided for the quadrennial election of a "clerk of the county court."¹ This court was also the administrative body in Douglas County from 1859 to 1867.² In addition to his duties as clerk of the judicial court, the incumbent was also to act as clerk of the administrative branch of government which consisted of the coun-

1. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16, 18, 19; L. 1849, p. 62, 63.

2. Douglas County was organized in 1859 (L. 1859, p. 24, 28).

ty judge and two justices of the peace sitting at special terms.¹ In 1867 Douglas County adopted the township form of government necessitating the election of a board of supervisors to supplant the county court as the county administrative body.² Accordingly, the clerk of the county court became ex-officio clerk of the board of supervisors.³

The above-mentioned clerks all performed the duties of county clerk as well as those of clerks of a judicial or administrative body. In fact, legislation frequently referred to these incumbents as "county clerks" when defining duties relating to county business as distinct from duties as clerks of judicial or administrative bodies. The Constitution of 1870 specifically provided for a county clerk⁴ who has continued to act to the present in this capacity, and also as clerk of the county board⁵ and clerk of the county court.⁶ The revised statutes of 1874 adopted the use of a distinction of titles for each of his ex-officio capacities, applying the title "county clerk" only when referring to his duties as such.⁷ It is the performance of these duties that gives rise to the records dealt with in this section.

The clerk of the county court served a four-year term and was bonded in the sum of \$3,000.⁸ The Constitution of 1870 and the revised statutes of 1874, establishing the office of county clerk, provided for his election for a quadrennial term, and that the amount of his bond be set by the county board.⁹ The bond is entered upon the records of his office, and deposited with the clerk of the circuit court. He is required to take oath, and is commissioned by the Governor,¹⁰ The county seal is kept by the clerk and is used by him when required.

In general, the county clerk's performance of his functions results in records relating to the following: taxation, vital statistics, licenses, and bonds. Various officials and agencies having authority over these matters report to, or deposit records with, the county clerk who in this manner acts as a coordinating factor in the execution of local and state affairs. In regard to other of these matters, the clerk is required to perform duties on his own behalf and retain the records resulting from such performance.

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1. L.1849, p. 65,66.
 2. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6; L.1851, p. 38,45,50.
 3. L.1851, p. 52; L.1861, p. 237.
 4. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 18 and Art. X, sec. 8.
 5. R.S.1874, p. 322.
 6. Ibid., p. 260.
 7. Ibid., p. 260,322.
 8. L.1849, p. 63,64.
 9. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; R.S.1874, p. 321.
 10. R.S.1874, p. 321.

County Clerk

Illustrations of both of these procedures may be found by examining the various duties and records relating to taxation. It is the duty of the county clerk to procure all books and blanks used in the assessment and collection of taxes, and to list in such books the lands and lots subject to taxation.¹ These books are then turned over to the supervisor of assessments who has the township assessors enter the valuations against each piece of property listed. The supervisor completes revisions and corrections upon complaint of property owners and returns the books in duplicate to the county clerk.² Personal property assessments are handled in essentially the same manner. The board of review then makes adjustments on complaints and equalizes assessments between districts certifying corrections and revisions to the county clerk.³ The county clerk then reports the entire assessment list to the state tax commission for equalization, the equalized list then being used by the county clerk in ascertaining tax rates and extending taxes.⁴

The state tax commission also certifies to the county clerk the assessments of the capital stock of corporations and railroad and telegraph companies, it being the duty of the clerk to extend these taxes and retain the books after use by the collector.⁵

The books are next turned over to the county collector who, after collection, returns lists of collections, together with lists of uncollected real and personal property taxes.⁶ The county clerk attends all tax sales, prepares a list of all sales and issues duplicate reports thereof, records affidavits of purchases of property for taxes, and keeps a record known as the "tax judgment, sale, redemption, and forfeiture record."⁷

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1. L.1867, p. 106; L.1871-72, p. 19,32; L.1903, p. 297. During the period of the first constitution such books and lists were prepared by the auditor of public accounts and turned over to the clerk of the county commissioners' court (L.1825, p. 173; R.L.1827, p. 329; L.1839, p. 3,4; L.1847, p. 79).
 2. The first assessment officer was the county treasurer (R.L.1827, p. 328-36). In 1839 this function was performed by the district assessors, who received from the county clerk copies of the auditor's transcripts (L.1839, p. 3,4). The treasurer resumed these duties in 1844 (L.1843, p. 231), retaining them until the institution of township organization in 1868 resulted in township assessors acting in each township (L.1851, p. 38). The treasurer now acts as ex-officio supervisor of assessments (L.1898, p. 36-44).
 3. L.1898, p. 36-44.
 4. L.1919, p. 723.
 5. L.1871-72, p. 11,13,16; L.1937, p. 1011,1012.
 6. L.1842, p. 124,125; L.1871-72, p. 55; L.1931, p. 759.
 7. L.1839, p. 3; L.1871-72, p. 40; L.1879, p. 250.

County Clerk

An extensive group of vital statistics records is kept by the county clerk, including records relating to births and deaths, marriages, physicians, and midwives. In 1842 it was provided that a parent could appear before the clerk of the county commissioners' court and make affidavit as to the birth of a child, and the eldest next of kin of a deceased person could similarly appear and make affidavit as to death.¹ It is probable that the tenor of the above-mentioned laws explains the fact that no birth or death records exist in Douglas County prior to 1877. The 1842 law provided that affidavits "may be made." An act of 1877 creating the State Board of Health required that all births and deaths in the county be reported to the county clerk by the attending physicians or accoucheurs.² Teeth were put into this and subsequent laws by providing penalties for noncompliance. In 1901 death certificates issued by physicians, midwives, or coroners were to be presented to town clerks who issued burial permits and forwarded the certificates to the county clerk.³ In 1903 certificates of death were to be turned over to the State Board of Health, which board in turn, delivered to the county clerk all certificates so received.⁴ In 1915 it was provided that for the registration of all births, stillbirths, and deaths outside of any city, village, or incorporated town, the township clerks should deposit a complete set of such records with the county clerk who was charged with the binding and indexing, or recording, and safekeeping of such records.⁵ From the earliest date, the legislation in regard to those matters provided that the clerk retain the abstracts and certificates, keep a record of births and deaths, maintain alphabetical indexes, and issue certified copies of certificates upon request. The clerk has also been required to prepare a register of all physicians and accoucheurs in the county.⁶

Before 1877 persons desiring to marry were required to secure licenses from the county clerk only when they had not previously published such intention, but in that year the securing of a license was made mandatory.⁷ Although a record of applications for marriage licenses has been kept by the clerk in Douglas County since 1892, the act of 1937 appears to be the first legislation requiring the maintenance of such a record.⁸ The same act provides that persons desiring to marry shall present to the county clerk a certificate setting forth that such persons are free from venereal diseases, such certificates to be filed with

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1. L.1842-43, p. 210-12. Douglas County was organized in 1859 (L.1859, p. 24,28).
 2. L.1877, p. 209.
 3. L.1901, p. 302,303.
 4. L.1903, p. 315-18.
 5. L.1915, p. 660.
 6. L.1877, p. 209.
 7. Ibid., p. 130.
 8. L.1937, p. 909.

County Clerk

the application for license to marry.¹ Indexes to marriage records have been kept in Douglas County since its organization in 1859.

The county clerk is charged with a number of duties relating to elections, such as preparing and issuing blank ballots,² poll books,³ and certificates of election,⁴ and keeping a record of registers of elections,⁵ petitions,⁶ and marked ballots,⁷ tally sheets,⁸ and election returns which are transmitted to him by the judges of election.⁹ Abstracts of returns were formerly prepared by the clerk, but these are now originated by the election commissioners or judges of election and deposited with the clerk. Returned ballots are destroyed by the clerk six months after election, provided no contest in which the ballots are needed is in progress.¹⁰ In 1889, when returns of elections for school trustees were made to the county clerk, he was charged with furnishing to the county superintendent of schools a list of all such trustees.¹¹ Now the clerk does not enter into the procedure, the school trustees canvassing the returns and certifying directly to the superintendent of schools.¹²

The bonds of a number of officials are required to be transmitted to the clerk for filing and entering in a book maintained for that purpose.¹³ Justices' of the peace and constables' oaths, bonds, and securities are approved by the clerk and entered in a separate book in accordance with statutory requirement. This book shows the date on which each justice of the peace and constable was sworn into office and the date of commission by the Governor. Resignations from these officers are made to the county clerk who enters such fact in the justices' and constables' record.¹⁴

The clerk is also charged with issuing licenses to taverns,¹⁵ ferries,¹⁶ etc., and keeping records of the same. Other records kept are: those relating to estrays;¹⁷ registers of professionals, including

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1. L.1937, p. 910.
 2. L.1891, p. 113; L.1911, p. 311.
 3. L.1871-72, p. 386.
 4. L.1819, p. 96; L.1821, p. 79; L.1823, p. 64; L.1885, p. 176.
 5. L.1865, p. 59; L.1871-72, p. 386.
 6. L.1911, p. 310, 311; L.1929, p. 422.
 7. L.1891, p. 118.
 8. L.1885, p. 143.
 9. L.1819, p. 86; L.1821, p. 77; L.1823, p. 64; L.1871-72, p. 96.
 10. L.1917, p. 444.
 11. L.1839, p. 271, 322.
 12. L.1909, p. 352.
 13. R.S.1845, p. 396, 397; L.1861, p. 237, 238; R.S.1874, p. 325; L.1895, p. 188.
 14. L.1895, p. 188.
 15. L.1819, p. 77-79; L.1933-34, Second Sp. Sess., p. 64-66.
 16. R.L.1827, p. 221; R.S.1874, p. 530.
 17. L.1819, p. 206, 207; R.S.1874, p. 483.

County Clerk

physicians,¹ midwives,² dentists,³ chiropodists,⁴ and veterinarians;⁵ list of county officers; list of town officers which is furnished annually by the town clerk;⁶ record of notaries public;⁷ and book of state civil service rules.⁸ Referring to his list of town officers, the county clerk reports annually to the State Department of Public Health the names and addresses of the supervisor, assessor, and clerk of each township, and the dates of the expiration of their terms of office.⁹

Included in the provision that the county clerk be charged with the care and custody of all records, books, and papers appertaining to, and filed or deposited in, his office¹⁰ are those duties as clerk of the county board, wherein he is required to record the proceedings of the board and to file all their books, records, and accounts.¹¹ Also included are his record-keeping duties as ex-officio clerk of the county court, with its resulting duties in relation to probate matters.¹² The clerk is also required to keep jury lists¹³ and a book in which he enters details as to orders upon the treasurer. He is further required to maintain alphabetical indexes of all records and papers in his office, and to supply copies of these records or papers to any person upon request and payment of the required fee.¹⁴

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1. L.1877, p. 209; L.1899, p. 275; L.1923, p. 441,442.
 2. Ibid.
 3. L.1881, p. 79; L.1899, p. 273; L.1909, p. 279; L.1933, p. 711.
 4. L.1899, p. 280; L.1935, p. 995.
 5. L.1917, p. 591.
 6. L.1861, p. 226; R.S.1874, p. 1077.
 7. L.1871-72, p. 575; R.S.1874, p. 721; L.1875, p. 88.
 8. L.1905, p. 115.
 9. L.1923, p. 480.
 10. R.S.1874, p. 322.
 11. L.1861, p. 238; R.S.1874, p. 322.
 12. R.S.1874, p. 260.
 13. Ibid., p. 630.
 14. Ibid., p. 321.

Taxation

(See also entries 1, 2, 98[ii, iv], 111,
121-124, 276-285)

Lists of Taxable Property,
Levies

28. DOCKET OF RATES AND TAXES, 1880--. 3 v. (1-3).

Docket of rates and amounts wanted, showing date of certificate of tax levy, amount and purpose of levy, certification of taxing body, kind of tax, tax rate, assessed and equalized values of all property taxed, and total tax assessments. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 11 x 17 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

29. ASSESSOR'S BOOKS, 1859--. 691 v.

(Douglas County, all townships, 1859-67. 8 v. Missing: 1860, 1862, 1864.

Arcola Township, 1868--. 81 v.

Bourbon Township, 1868--. 77 v. Missing: 1869-71, 1882.

Bowdre Township, 1868--. 76 v. Missing: 1876-77, 1879, 1884, 1889.

Camargo Township, 1868--. 76 v. Missing: 1872, 1878, 1888, 1889, 1896.

Garrett Township, 1868--. 80 v. Missing: 1871.

Murdock Township, 1883--. 66 v. Missing: 1885.

Newman Township, 1868--. 69 v. Missing: 1869-75, 1886, 1887, 1889, 1890.

Sargent Township, 1868--. 81 v.

Tuscola Township, 1870--. 77 v. Missing: 1886, 1889).

Assessor's lists of taxable real and personal property, showing name of owner, description of property, assessed and equalized values, total value, and total tax. Personal property arr. alph. by name of owner; real estate arr. by addition, sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. Volumes for 1859-80 in very poor condition. 200 p. 17 x 15 x 1. 583 v., 1859-1925, common vlt., bsmt.; 108 v., 1926--., co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

30. RAILROAD TAX BOOK, 1873--. 7 v.

Lists of taxable railroad properties, showing name of railroad, kind, amount, and legal description of property, miles of track, valuation, date, and amount of assessment. Arr. by date of assessment. Indexed alph. by name of railroad. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 120 p. 18 x 12 x 1. 1 v., 1873-82, common vlt., bsmt.; 5 v., 1883-1928, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.; 1 v., 1929--., treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

31. RAILROAD LAND, 1874-76. 1 v. Discontinued.

Record of sale of lands owned by the Illinois Central Railroad, showing date, name of purchaser, price per acre, and description and location of lands. Arr. by date of sale. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 350 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

32. TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE TAX BOOK, 1874--. 5 v.

Statements of taxes assessed and collected on real and personal property of telegraph companies, 1874--, and telephone companies, 1888--, showing date, name of company, description of property, and amounts of assessment and collection. 1874-1908, arr. alph. by name of company; 1909--, arr. by date of assessment. 1874-1908, no index; 1909--, indexed alph. by name of company. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 360 p. 18 x 14 x 2. 1 v., 1874, common vlt., bsmt.; 4 v., 1875--, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

33. TRANSFER BOOK FOR ARCOLA, BOURBON, TUSCOLA, CAMARGO, NEWMAN, BOWDRE, AND SARGENT TOWNSHIPS, 1838-74. 7 v. Discontinued.

Register of land transfers prior to organization of Douglas County, used for taxation purposes, showing date of purchase of land, name of purchaser, legal description, location, and acreage of land. Arr. by date of sale. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 11 x 1½. Common vlt., bsmt.

34. ASSESSMENT ROLLS, 1920--. 1 f.b.

Drainage commissioners' original assessment rolls for proposed drainage district, showing names of drainage commissioners and owners of land, legal description of property, total number of acres, date and amount of assessments levied; also releases of damages for the construction of drainage system. Arr. by date of levy. No index. Hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

35. SPECIAL ASSESSMENT TAX LIST OF ARCOLA DRAINAGE DISTRICT, 1899-1905. 1 v. Discontinued.

Arcola drainage district special assessment record showing name of owner, description of land, date and amounts of assessment and payment, and balance due. Arr. by date of levy. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 360 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

36. RECORD OF DRAINAGE ASSESSMENT, 1899-1903. 1 v. Discontinued.

Drainage district assessment record showing name of owner, description of land, amount of tax levy, and due date of payment. Arr. by date of levy. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 280 p. 10 x 14 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

37. PAYMENTS FROM REFUNDING FUND, 1873-87. Discontinued.

Lists of refunds of such portion of the state taxes of 1873 as were illegally assessed, showing description of property, equalized value, amount of state tax paid, and amount and date of refund. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 16 x 11 x 3. Common vlt., bsmt.

Collections, Abatement

38. COLLECTOR'S BOOKS, 1859--. 602 v.

(Douglas County, all townships, 1859-67. 7 v. Missing: 1861, 1866.

Arcola Township, 1868--. 68 v. Missing: 1870, 1871, 1887.

Bourbon Township, 1868--. 68 v. Missing: 1875, 1886.

Bowdre Township, 1868--. 69 v. Missing: 1870, 1873.

Camargo Township, 1868--. 67 v. Missing: 1871, 1873.

Garrett Township, 1868--. 69 v.

Murdock Township, 1883--. 55 v.

Newman Township, 1868--. 69 v.

Sargent Township, 1868--. 62 v. Missing: 1889, 1891-96, 1914.
 Tuscola Township, 1868--. 68 v. Missing: 1870, 1871, 1875).
 Collector's lists of taxable real and personal property, showing name of owner, description of property, assessed and equalized values, amounts of current and back taxes, total due, amounts of collections, date of payment, and memorandum of total collection. Also contains Abstract of Assessment and Tax (Footings), 1859-70, entry 39. Personal property arr. alph. by name of owner; real estate arr. by addition, sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 100 - 400 p. 17 x 15 x 1 - 14 x 10 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. 421 v., 1859-1917, common vlt., bsmt.; 181 v., 1918--., treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

39. ABSTRACT OF ASSESSMENT AND TAX (Footings), 1871--. 5 v.
 1859-70 in Collector's Books, entry 38.
 Abstract of footings in collector's books, showing totals of all column footings, book and page numbers, and date of levy. Arr. by date of levy. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

40. DELINQUENT BOOKS, 1873--. 360 v.
 (Douglas County, all townships, 1873-97. 9 v. [2, 3, 5-10, 12]. Missing: 1880, 1887, 1890-94.
 Arcola Township, 1898--. 39 v.
 Bourbon Township, 1898--. 39 v.
 Bowdre Township, 1898--. 39 v.
 Camargo Township, 1898--. 39 v.
 Garrett Township, 1898--. 39 v.
 Murdock Township, 1898--. 39 v.
 Newman Township, 1898--. 39 v.
 Sargent Township, 1898--. 39 v.
 Tuscola Township, 1898--. 39 v.).
 Transcripts of delinquent real estate and personal property, showing date, in whose name assessed, description of property, equalized value, tax spread, back taxes, interest, and total due. Arr. by date of delinquency. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 60 p. 15 x 12 x $\frac{1}{2}$. 189 v., 1873-1917, common vlt., bsmt.; 171 v., 1918--., co. treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

41. COLLECTOR'S STATEMENT TO AUDITOR, 1890--. 1 v., 1890-1917;
 1 f.b., 1928--. Missing: 1918-27.
 Duplicate copies of collector's statements to state auditor of taxes collected in each township, showing rate of tax and dates and amounts of assessment and collection. Arr. by date of statement. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm., and typed. V. 150 p. 16 x 14 x 1; f.b. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

42. STATEMENT ACCOUNT COUNTY COLLECTOR'S REGISTERED BOND FUND TAX, 1891-97. 1 v. Discontinued.
 County collector's statement of taxes collected for payment of registered bond fund tax, showing the equalized valuation of all real and personal property, date and amount of tax, tax on forfeited property, back taxes on railroad property, and credits due for errors, insolvencies, removals, and forfeitures. Arr. by date of levy. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 13 x 9 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Judgment, Sale, Redemption,
Forfeiture43. TAX JUDGMENT, SALE, REDEMPTION, AND FORFEITURE RECORD, 1880--.
30 v. (5-34).

Record of tax judgment, sale, redemption, and forfeiture on tax delinquent property, showing name of owner, description and location of property, amount of delinquent tax due, dates and amounts of judgment and sale, and final disposition of property. Formerly kept as Tax Judgment Record, entry 45; Tax Sale and Redemption Record, entry 46; and Forfeited Lands and Lots, entry 47, the latter record being kept separately again after 1906. Arr. by date of judgment. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

44. INDEX TO TAX JUDGMENT AND SALE RECORDS, 1860-79. 2 v. Discontinued. Index to Tax Judgment Record, entry 45; and Tax Sale and Redemption Record, entry 46, showing legal description of tract, names of parties, type of transaction, and record book and page number. Arr. by twp. and range nos. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

45. TAX JUDGMENT RECORD, 1860-79. 5 v. (1 not labeled, B, 3, C, D). Title varies: Judgment Against Lands for Taxes, 1880-- in Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, entry 43. Record of tax judgments, showing name of property owner, amount of state, county, and town tax due, and date of judgment for delinquent taxes. Arr. by date of judgment. For index, see entry 44. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

46. TAX SALE AND REDEMPTION RECORD, 1866-79. 3 v. (2-4). 1880-- in Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, entry 43. Record of tax sales and redemptions, showing name of property owner, amount of state, county, and town tax due, date of sale, and amount for which property was sold. Arr. by date of sale. For index, see entry 44. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

47. FORFEITED LANDS AND LOTS, 1871-79, 1907--. 5 v. (2 not numbered, 1871-79, 1-3, 1907--). 1880-1906 in Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, entry 43. Lists of lands and lots forfeited for nonpayment of taxes, showing date, in whose name assessed, legal description of property, amounts of taxes and costs, equalized value, and total due. Arr. by date of forfeiture. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 350 - 700 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 12 x 24 x 4. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

48. AFFIDAVITS FOR TAX DEEDS, 1885--. 1 f.b. Applications and affidavits for tax deeds, showing date, names of owner and purchaser, legal notice, description of property, dates of sale and affidavit, and court orders. Arr. by date of affidavit. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

49. AFFIDAVIT FOR TAX DEED, 1873-1921. 2 v. (A, 2). 1922-- in
Miscellaneous Record, entry 99.

Copies of applications and affidavits for tax deeds, showing date, names of owner and purchaser, legal notice of sale, description of property, dates of sale and affidavit, and court orders. Arr. by date of affidavit. Indexed alph. by name of purchaser. 1873-1916, hdw.; 1917-21, typed. 560 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

50. TAX JUDGMENT, SALE, REDEMPTION, AND FORFEITURE RECORD, SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS, 1933--. 1 v.

Lists of lands and lots upon which tax judgment, sale, redemption, or forfeiture proceedings have been entered for delinquent special assessments in towns and villages, showing date, location, and nature of improvement, number of installments and amount of delinquency, date of proceedings, legal description of property, and amount of sale or redemption. Arr. by sec. and range in towns and by lot no. in villages. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 17 x 19 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

51. (ACKNOWLEDGMENTS OF REDEMPTION ORDERS), 1933--. 1 f.b.

Acknowledgments by county collector of county clerk's order to accept redemption money on forfeited lands, showing date, name of redeemer, amount, and signature of collector. Arr. by date of acknowledgment. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Co. clk.'s off., 2nd fl.

52. REDEMPTION OF LANDS FORFEITED TO STATE, 1933--. 10 v.

Copies of county clerk's orders to county collector to receive redemption money, showing date, description of forfeited property, and amounts of taxes and costs. Arr. by date of order. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 p. 8 x 9 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s off., 2nd fl.

Vital Statistics

Births (See also
entries 95, 286)

53. CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH (and Stillbirth), 1916--. 1 f.d.

Birth certificates showing certificate number, child's name, sex, race or color, date and place of birth, names, ages, places of birth, and nationality of parents, and signature of attending physician; also contains certificates of stillbirth on State Board of Health form. Arr. alph. by name of child. For index, 1916-17, see entry 54; 1918--, no index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 12 x 14 x 26. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

54. INDEX TO BIRTH CERTIFICATES, 1916-17. 1 v. Discontinued.

Index to Certificate of Birth (and Stillbirth), entry 53, showing name of child, date of birth, and certificate number. Arr. alph. by name of child. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

55. BIRTH REGISTER, 1877-1915. 5 v. (1, 2, 3 not numbered). Title varies: Record of Births. Discontinued.

Register of births, showing child's name, sex, race or color, date and place of birth, full names of parents, and certification of medical attendant. Arr. by date of registration. For index, 1877-80, see entry 56; 1881-1915, indexed alph. by name of child. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

56. INDEX TO BIRTH REGISTER, 1877-80. 1 v. Discontinued.

Index to Birth Register, entry 55, showing name of child, and record book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by name of child. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 330 p. 18 x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Stillbirths

57. STILLBIRTH REGISTER, 1877-99. 1 v. 1900-1915 in Death Register, entry 60.

Register of stillbirths, showing dates of birth and return of certificates, names and birthplaces of parents, period of uterogestation, sex, color, and nativity of father and mother, cause of stillbirth, and signature of medical attendant. Arr. by date of stillbirth. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 18 x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Deaths (See also entries 95, 98[v], 286)

58. CERTIFICATE OF DEATH, 1916--. 1 f.d.

Certificates of deaths, showing certificate number, name, sex, color, age, and occupation of deceased, date, place, and cause of death, date and place of burial, and signature of attending physician. Arr. alph. by name of deceased. For index, 1916-17, see entry 59; 1918--, no index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 12 x 14 x 26. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

59. INDEX TO DEATH CERTIFICATES, 1916-17. 1 v. Discontinued.

Index to Certificate of Death, entry 58, showing name of deceased, date of death, and certificate number. Arr. alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

60. DEATH REGISTER, 1877-1915. 3 v. (1-3). Title varies: Record of Deaths. Discontinued.

Register of deaths, showing name, sex, color, age, and occupation of deceased, date, cause, and place of death, date and place of burial, and names and addresses of undertaker and physician. Also contains Stillbirth Register, 1900-1915, entry 57. Arr. by date of death. For index, 1877-80, see entry 61; 1881-1915, indexed alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

61. INDEX TO REGISTER OF DEATHS, 1877-80. 1 v. Discontinued.

Index to Death Register, entry 60, showing name of deceased, and record book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

62. (Registrars') DEATH CERTIFICATE RECORD, 1903-16. 1 v. Discontinued. Register of board of health certificates of death, as reported by registrars, showing date of certificate, name and address of deceased, date of certification by State Board of Health, amount of fee, and warrant number. Arr. by twps. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 16 x 11 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

63. VETERANS' BURIAL RECORDS, 1931--. 1 f.b. Undertakers' burial certificates of United States war veterans, showing veteran's name, date and place of birth, war service record, cause of death, date and place of burial, and date of report to superintendent of war veterans' grave registration. Arr. by date of death. No index. Hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Co. clk.'s off., 2nd fl.

Marriages

64. INDEX TO MARRIAGES, 1859--. 6 v. (4 v. 1859-1902; 2 v. 1859--). Title varies: Index to Marriage Records. Index to Marriage Licenses (Returned), entry 65; Marriage License Record, entry 66; Application for Marriage License, entry 67; Marriage License Record Minor, entry 68; and Marriage Register, entry 70, showing names of male and female, marriage record and page of entry, and file box number. Four volumes, 1859-1902, are transcribed into two volumes, 1859--. 4 v., 1859-1902, arr. alph. by names of male and female; 2 v., 1859--, arr. alph. by name of male. 1859-1902, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1859--, typed under pr. hdgs. 500 - 640 p. 14 x 9 x 2 - 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

65. MARRIAGE LICENSES (Returned), 1909-33. 9 f.b. 1934-- in Marriage License Record, entry 66. Original marriage licenses returned by minister or officiating magistrate, showing dates of license and marriage, and names of contracting parties. Arr. by date of license. For index, see entry 64. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

66. MARRIAGE LICENSE RECORD, 1859--. 14 v. (A, 1, 2A, 3A, 2-11). Title varies: Marriage Record. Copies of marriage licenses issued, showing date, names and addresses of bride, groom, parents, and witnesses, personal statistics, maiden name of mother, place of marriage, and certification and signature of person performing ceremony. Subsequent to 1933 kept in loose-leaf form. Also contains Marriage Licenses (Returned), 1934--, entry 65; Application for Marriage License, 1934--, entry 67, and Marriage License Record Minor, 1859-1914, 1934--, entry 68. Arr. by date of license. For index, see entry 64. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 - 640 p. 14 x 9 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 14 x 9 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. V. A, 1, 2A, 3A, 2-8, 1859-1932, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.; v. 9-11, 1933--, co. clk.'s off., 2nd fl.

67. APPLICATION FOR MARRIAGE LICENSE, 1892-1933. 14 v. (A, 1 not labeled, 2, 2 not labeled, 2-10). 1934-- in Marriage License Record, entry 66. Applications for marriage licenses, showing date, applicant's name, age, places of residence and birth, marital status, and parents' or guardians' consent in cases of minors. Arr. by date of application. For index, see entry 64. Hdw. on pr. fm. 500 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Co. clk.'s off., 2nd fl.

68. MARRIAGE LICENSE RECORD MINOR, 1915-33. 1 v. 1859-1914, 1934--
in Marriage License Record, entry 66.

Copies of minors' marriage licenses and certificates of minister or officiating magistrate, showing dates of license and marriage, names of contracting parties, and consent of parent or guardian. Arr. by date of license or certificate. For index, see entry 64. Hdw. on pr. fm. 320 p. 18 x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

69. LICENSES ISSUED, 1894--. 3 v. (A, 2 not lettered).

Register of marriage licenses issued, showing date, and names, ages, and addresses of male and female. Arr. by date of license. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 14 x 9 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. V. A, 1 not lettered, 1894-1929, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.; 1 v. not lettered, 1930--, co. clk.'s off., 2nd fl.

70. MARRIAGE REGISTER, 1874-1901. 3 v. (1-3). Discontinued.

Register of marriages, showing names of male and female, name of certifying officer, and date of marriage. Arr. by date of marriage. For index, see entry 64. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 18 x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Licenses and Registers

Register of Officers

71. REGISTER OF COMMISSIONS (of Officers), 1859--. 2 v. (1 not numbered, 2).

Register of officers, showing names of officer and township, and dates of election, oath, and expiration of term of office. 1859-79, arr. by date of election; 1880--, arr. alph. by name of officer; 1859-79, indexed alph. by name of officer; 1880--, no index. 1859-79, hdw.; 1880--, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p., 16 x 11 x $1\frac{1}{2}$ - 18 x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Professional Licenses and Registers (See also entry 99[i,ii,iii])

72. RECORD OF PHYSICIANS' CERTIFICATES, 1877-1926. 2 v. (1, 2).
1927-- in Miscellaneous Record, entry 99.

Copies of board of health certificates granting permission to practice medicine, showing name of physician, dates of certificate and diploma, name of school, and number of years in practice. Arr. by date of certificate. Indexed alph. by name of physician. Hdw. on pr. fm. 120 p. 18 x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

73. REGISTER OF PHYSICIANS AND ACCOUCHEURS, 1877-95. 1 v. 1896--,
in Miscellaneous Record, entry 99.

Register of certificates of physicians and accoucheurs, showing date, name, age, residence, total years in practice, place and date of receiving diploma or license, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 18 x 12 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

74. PHYSICIANS' AND MIDWIVES' CERTIFICATES, 1878-82. 1 v.

Copies of certificates issued to physicians by State Board of Health, showing number and date of certificate, name of practitioner, name of school, signatures of members of State Board of Health, and date of filing. Also contains copies of midwives' certificates. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of practitioner. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 1½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

For other records of physicians' certificates, see entry 72; for subsequent records of midwives' certificates, see entry 99[i].

75. DENTAL RECORD, 1892-1926. 1 v. 1927-- in Miscellaneous Record, entry 99.

Copies of dental certificates issued by state board of dental examiners, showing name of dentist, date of graduation, name of school, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of dentist. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 1½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

76. ARCHITECTS' LICENSE CERTIFICATES, 1897-1914. 1 v. 1915-- in Miscellaneous Record, entry 99.

Copies of certificates of architects, showing date, age, residence, place of business, and educational qualifications of applicant, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of architect. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

77. OPTOMETRY REGISTER, 1916-23. 1 v. 1883-1915, 1924-- in Miscellaneous Record, entry 99.

Register of optometrists, showing certificate number, name and address of optometrist, date and class of certificate, and date of filing. Arr. alph. by name of optometrist. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

78. RECORD OF REGISTERED NURSES' CERTIFICATES, 1910. 1 v. 1911-- in Miscellaneous Record, entry 99.

Copies of certificates of Illinois state board of examiners of registered nurses, showing date of certificate, name and age of nurse, name and location of school of graduation, signatures of president and secretary of state board, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of nurse. Hdw. on pr. fm. 340 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Estrays

79. ESTRAY RECORD, 1859--. 2 v. (1 not lettered, A). Last entry 1914.

Register of stray animals, showing date of finding, name of finder, description of animal, name of justice of the peace, appraiser's value of animal, and public notice of sale. Arr. by date of finding. No index. 1859-70, hdw.; 1871--, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 - 500 p. 14 x 9 x 1½ - 18 x 12 x 2½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Dog Licenses (See
also entries 285, 294, 295)

80. DOG TAX RECORD (Licenses), 1918--. 1 v. (1).
Register of dog licenses, showing name of owner, tag and license numbers, amount of tax collected, and date of payment. Arr. by date of payment. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 360 p. 16 x 10 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Elections

81. RECORD OF ELECTION OF COUNTY OFFICERS, 1859--. 3 v. (1 not numbered, 1, 2).
Election register of county officers, showing names of officer, township, and office, precinct number, and dates of election and expiration of office. Arr. by date of election. Indexed alph. by name of official. 1859-87, hdw.; 1888--., hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 14 x 10 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.
82. PRIMARY POLL BOOK, 1930--. 600 v.
Poll books containing oaths of election judges and clerks and list of legal voters, showing date, name and residence of voter, political affiliation, and certification by primary judges of election precincts. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 30 p. 13 x 9 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.
83. CANVASS BOOK BY PRECINCTS (Primary), 1930--. 100 v.
Precinct canvass books of votes cast for candidates at primary elections, showing date, name of candidate, political affiliation, office to which nominated, and number of votes received by each candidate. Arr. by date of election. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 4 p. 13 x 14 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s off., 2nd fl.
84. CANVASS BOOK BY PRECINCTS (Elections other than Primary), 1930--. 50 v.
Abstract of votes cast in elections, showing date, names of candidates, and number of votes received. Arr. by date of election. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 4 p. 13 x 14 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s off., 2nd fl.
85. (ELECTION BALLOTS), 1936--. 25 sacks.
Ballots used in primary and general elections, showing date of election, official count, and results. Arr. by date of election. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 30 x 16 x 12. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Bonds of Officers (See also entries 125, 126, 131)

86. COUNTY OFFICERS' BONDS, 1918--. 1 f.b.
Original bonds of county and township officers, including those of constable and justice of the peace, showing date, name of official, amount and conditions of bond, and names of sureties. Arr. by date of bond. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

County Clerk - Oaths of
County and Township Officers;
Civil Service Rules

87. JUSTICE OF PEACE AND CONSTABLE BONDS, 1868--. 1 v. (A).
Copies of justices' of the peace and constables' bonds, showing names of principal and sureties, amount and obligations of bond, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of principal. Hdw. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 1½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

88. RECORD A (County Officials' Bond Record), 1876--. 1 v. (A).
1859-75 in Supervisors' Record, entry 2.
Record of bonds of township and county officials, showing date, names of official and sureties, and amount and conditions of bond. Arr. by date of bond. Indexed alph. by name of official. 1876-1907, hdw.; 1908--, typed. 500 p. 14 x 10 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

89. ASSESSORS' BOND RECORD, 1898--. 2 v. (1, 2).
Copies of township assessors' bonds, showing date, names of assessor, township, and sureties, and amount and conditions of bond. Arr. by date of bond. Indexed alph. by name of twp. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 1½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

90. SUPERVISORS' BOND RECORD - ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND, 1914--. 1 v. (1).
Bonds of township supervisors as ex-officio treasurers of road and bridge fund, showing name of supervisor, and date, amount, and condition of bond. Also contains (Road and Bridge Fund), entry 19. Arr. by date of bond. Indexed alph. by name of supervisor. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 16 x 11 x 1½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

91. COLLECTORS' BONDS, 1868-1918. 3 v. (A-C). Discontinued.
Township collectors' bond record showing names of collector, township, and sureties, and date, amount, and conditions of bond. Arr. by date of bond. Indexed alph. by name of collector. Hdw. on pr. fm. 416 p. 18 x 12 x 2½. V. A, 1868-78, common vlt., bsmt.; v. B, C, 1879-1918, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Oaths of County and Township Officers

92. OFFICIAL OATH RECORD, 1876--. 2 v. (A, 1).
Record of county and township officers' oaths, showing date and nature of oath, and names of official and office. Arr. by date of oath. Indexed alph. by name of official. 1876-1907, hdw.; 1908--, typed. 400 p. 14 x 10 x 2½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Civil Service Rules

93. CIVIL SERVICE RECORD, 1905-14. 1 v.
Record of rules and amendments to rules as adopted by the state civil service commission. Arr. by rule no. No index. Hdw. and typed. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 1½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

County Clerk - Fees, Receipts
and Expenditures; Maps and
Plats; Miscellaneous Records

(94-98)

Fees, Receipts and Expenditures

94. DAILY RECORD OF FEES EARNED AND RECEIVED, 1904--. 4 v. (A, B, 2 not lettered).

County clerk's register of fees earned and received by county officials, showing date, source, purpose, and amount of fee, and fee book and page of entry. Arr. by date of entry. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 450 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

95. ACCOUNT BOOK BIRTHS AND DEATHS, 1902-15. 1 v. Discontinued. County clerk's account with registrars of births and deaths, showing name of registrar, number of births and deaths reported, and date, number, and amount of warrant. Arr. by date of warrant. Indexed alph. by name of registrar. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 302 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

For subsequent stub record of warrants, see entry 10; for treasurer's account book, see entry 286.

Maps and Plats
(See also entry 98[iii])

96. SCHOOL DISTRICT PLATS, 1872--. 2 v. (B, 3).

Plats of school districts, showing name, location, boundaries, number, and legal description of district, names and certification of members of school board, and date of plat. Arr. by date of plat. Indexed alph. by name of school district. Hdw. and hand-drawn. 340 p. 16 x 10 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

97. ROAD DISTRICT PLATS, 1885. 1 v.

Plats of all road districts in 1885, showing district numbers, sections, and fractional sections in each district. Arr. alph. by name of twp. No index. Hand-drawn. 320 p. 16 x 14 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Miscellaneous Records

98. (MISCELLANEOUS FILES), 1888--. 15 f.b.

County clerk's file of miscellaneous papers, containing:

- i. Blind pension applications, 1903--, showing name, address, marital status, and age of applicant, amount of income, date of filing, and sworn statement of examining physician.
- ii. Certificates of tax levies, 1907--, showing dates of levy and filing, and amounts of allotments for educational, building, and road and bridge purposes.
- iii. School district maps, 1888--, showing boundaries of school district, school district number, and location of school.
- iv. Tax sale certificates, 1930--, showing names of owner and purchaser, amount of sale, legal description of property, signature of county clerk and date of sale and filing.
- v. Veterans' burial certificates, 1932--, showing name of veteran, dates of death and burial, place of burial, and signature of undertaker.

Also contains (County Claims), entry 6, and (Jury Venires), entry 27. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Nature of recording varies. 10 x 4½ x 13. Co. clk.'s off., 2nd fl.

99. MISCELLANEOUS RECORD, 1883--. 13 v. (A-M).

Miscellaneous record, containing:

- i. Copies of midwives' certificates, 1883--, showing name, age, and nativity of midwife, date of certificate, signatures of president and secretary of state examining board, and date of filing.
- ii. Register of veterinary licenses, 1883--, showing license number, name and address of veterinarian, name of college of graduation, certification and signatures of board of veterinary examiners, and date of registration.
- iii. Register of chiroprodists' and osteopaths' certificates, 1883--, showing name, age, address, and nativity of chiroprodist or osteopath, dates of certificate and registration, school of graduation, and number of years of practice.

Also contains Affidavit for Tax Deed, 1922--, entry 49; Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1927--, entry 72; Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1896--, entry 73; Dental Record, 1927--, entry 75; Architects' License Certificates, 1915--, entry 76; Optometry Register, 1883-1915, 1924--, entry 77; Record of Registered Nurses' Certificates, 1911--, entry 78; Administrator De Bonis Non and Will Annexed, 1930--, entry 185; Conservators' Record, 1933--, entry 188; and Sale of Real Estate, 1927--, entry 194. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of subject or person. 1883-1917, hdw.; 1918--, typed. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

III. RECORDER

With the adoption of the second constitution the duties of the recorder were delegated to the circuit court clerk in an ex-officio capacity.¹ The Constitution of 1870 reestablished the office of recorder in counties having a population of sixty thousand or more but continued the provision of the prior constitution for other counties.² As the population of Douglas never reached the minimum set by the constitution,³ the circuit court clerk in this county has retained his ex-officio duties as recorder. The amount of

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1. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 19; L.1849, p. 64. During the first constitutional period a recorder was appointed, L.1819, p. 19, or elected, L.1835, p. 166.
 2. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; R.S.1874, p. 833.
 3. Fifteenth census shows population of Douglas County 19,604 in 1920 and 17,910 in 1930. Population Bulletin, Illinois, U.S. Census 1930, p. 8.

the recorder's bond was set at \$5,000 in 1872, and the county judge was to give approval.¹ This amount was raised in 1874 to \$10,000 for counties having the population of Douglas. A copy of the bond is entered upon the records of the county court.²

Assistants and deputies are appointed by the recorder in a number as determined by rule of the circuit court and as entered upon the court record.³ The compensation of the assistants and deputies is set by the county board.⁴ Written oaths of deputies are filed with the Secretary of State.⁵

In accordance with the duty of the recorder to record at length all written instruments, the following records are required to be kept:

1. An entry book in which data relating to date and order of receipt of instruments to be recorded or filed, and the names of parties and location of property, with a brief description of the premises, are entered. Each of such instruments is numbered by the recorder with the corresponding number of the entry. The entry book serves as a table of contents, with descriptive memoranda, for all instruments recorded at length or filed in the recorder's office.
2. Well-bound books for recording at length any instrument in writing entitled to be recorded, in the order of time of its reception. Separate books are allowed to be kept for the recording of different classes of instruments and two distinct series of document numbers may be used in recording documents received for recordation. One series preceded by the letter "B" is for the recordation of bills of sales of personal property, chattel mortgages, releases, extensions, and assignments thereof. The other series of document numbers is for all other instruments received for recordation.
3. Grantors and grantees indexes. In the grantors index are listed the names of the grantors in alphabetical order and the names of the grantees. The grantees index shows the names of the grantees in alphabetical order and the names of the grantors. Each index also shows the date of the instrument, time of receipt,

1. L.1871-72, p. 645.

2. R.S.1874, p. 833.

3. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9; R.S.1874, p. 833.

4. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.

5. R.S.1874, p. 833.

kind of instrument, consideration, book and page of recordation, or the number under which it is filed, and a brief description of the premises.

4. Indexes to each book of record in which are entered in alphabetical order, the names of each grantor and grantee and page on which the instrument is recorded. This series indexes instruments such as powers of attorney, chattel mortgages, and those recorded by corporations.
5. An index to recorded maps and plats, based on location of property, sometimes arranged by section, township, and range.
6. An abstract book, in effect indexing records by showing for each tract every conveyance or incumbrance recorded, its execution and filing date, and the book and page of its recordation. Series optional with county board.
7. A separate book to record certificates of honorable discharge from military, aviation, and naval service.¹

The recorder, in recording at length any instrument in writing is permitted to make a handwritten or typewritten transcription, a photographic or photostatic reproduction, or to use a combination of these methods.² In addition to the instruments received for recordation, the recorder is required upon receipt to file any mortgage, trust deed, or conveyance of personal property having the effect of a mortgage or lien upon such property which is endorsed with the words, "This instrument to be filed, but not recorded." The recorder marks such instruments "filed" and enters the time of their receipt and files them in his office.³

Entry Books

100. ENTRY BOOK, 1874--. 16 v. (A-P). 1872-73 in Register of Fees, entry 244.

Entries of recorded instruments, showing date and kind of instrument, names of parties, recording fee, and time and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

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1. L.1819, p. 18,20,21; R.L.1829, p. 116,117; L.1847, p. 69; L.1853, p. 254; L.1867, p. 148; L.1869, p. 2; L.1871-72, p. 645,646; L.1873, p. 144; R.S.1874, p. 834-37; L.1917, p. 652; L.1925, p. 521; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 214.
 2. L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 214.
 3. L.1927, p. 521; L.1929, p. 592-94; L.1933, p. 860.

101. LAND BOOK (Register of Original Patentees), 1830-75. 1 v. Entries of original patents on the lands of Douglas County, showing dates of entry or purchase, name of purchaser, legal description of land, and number of acres. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 18 x 12 x 1. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Tract Indexes

102. ABSTRACT LANDS (Tract Index), 1836--. 7 v. (1-3, 5, 6, 10, 12). Index to conveyances on all land tracts, including conveyances prior to organization of Douglas County, showing date and kind of instrument, record book and page number, names of grantor and grantee, description of property, and date of filing. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 19 x 14 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

103. ABSTRACT TOWN LOTS (Lot Index), 1836--. 8 v. (1-4, 7, 9, 11, 12). Index to all lots, blocks, and subdivisions in villages and towns of Douglas County, showing date and kind of instrument, record book and page number, names of grantor and grantee, description of property, and date of filing. Arr. by towns, additions, and subdivisions. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 19 x 14 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Instruments Recorded

General

104. (UNCALLED FOR DOCUMENTS), 1860--. 18 f.b. (9 f.b., 1860-1900; 9 f.b., 1874--).

Original instruments left for recording and not called for, including warranty and trust deeds, mortgage releases, patents, contracts, and chattel and real estate mortgages. 1860-1900, arr. by date of filing; 1874--, arr. alph. by name of grantee. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

105. TRANSCRIPT RECORD (Coles County), 1836-59. 5 v. (1-5). Transcript of all Coles County records of deeds, mortgages, and releases of lands now included in Douglas County, showing date and terms of instrument, legal description of property, names of parties, consideration, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of grantor. Hdw. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Deeds

106. GENERAL INDEX, GRANTOR, GRANTEE, 1859--. 22 v. (1-7, 4 not numbered, grantor; 1-7, 4 not numbered, grantee).

Index to Warranty Deed Record, entry 107; Quitclaim Deed Record, entry 108; Cemetery Deed Record, entry 109; Deed Record (Sheriff's Deeds), entry 110; Tax Deed Record, entry 111; Master's and Administrators' (and Executors' and Guardians') Deed Record, entry 112; Deed Record (Tuscola Chamber of Commerce), entry 113; and Deed Record (Illinois Central Railroad Company), entry 114, showing names of grantor and grantee, date and kind of instrument, record book and page number, consideration, description of property, and date of filing. Arr. alph. by names of grantor and grantee. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

107. WARRANTY DEED RECORD, 1859--. 86 v. (1-109 not consecutive).

Title varies: Deed Record.

Recordation of warranty deeds and other types of deeds not recorded in special series, showing date and kind of deed, names of grantor and grantee, legal description of property, terms, consideration, and acknowledgment. Also contains Quitclaim Deed Record, 1859-66, entry 108; Cemetery Deed Record, 1859-1904, entry 109; Deed Record (Sheriff's Deeds), 1859-66, 1903--, entry 110; Tax Deed Record, 1920--, entry 111; Master's and Administrators' (and Executors' and Guardians') Deed Record, 1859-80, 1919--, entry 112; Deed Record (Tuscola Chamber of Commerce), 1925--, entry 113; and Deed Record (Illinois Central Railroad Company), 1890--, entry 114. Arr. by date of recordation. For index, see entry 106. 1859-1907, hdw.; 1908-10, hdw. and typed; 1911--, typed. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

108. QUITCLAIM DEED RECORD, 1867--. 17 v. (11-108 not consecutive).

1859-66 in Warranty Deed Record, entry 107.

Recordation of quitclaim deeds, showing date, names of grantor and grantee, consideration, description of property, and dates of filing and recordation. Arr. by date of recordation. For index, see entry 106. 1867-1907, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1908--, typed on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

109. CEMETERY DEED RECORD, 1905--. 2 v. (1, 2). 1859-1904 in

Warranty Deed Record, entry 107.

Recordation of deeds to cemetery lots, showing date, names of cemetery association and grantee, consideration, description of property, and dates of filing and recordation. Arr. by date of recordation. For index, see entry 106. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

110. DEED RECORD (Sheriff's Deeds), 1867-1902. 1 v. 1859-66, 1903-- in Warranty Deed Record, entry 107.

Recordation of sheriff's deeds, showing date, names of sheriff and grantee, consideration, description of property conveyed upon judgment, and execution of judgment thereon. Also contains Tax Deed Record, 1867-72, entry 111. Arr. by date of recordation. For index, see entry 106. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Recorder - Instruments
Recorded

111. TAX DEED RECORD, 1873-1919. 3 v. (21, 31, 38). 1867-72 in Deed Record (Sheriff's Deeds), entry 110; 1920-- in Warranty Deed Record, entry 107.

Recordation of tax deeds, showing names of county clerk and grantee, consideration, description of property sold for nonpayment of taxes, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. For index, see entry 106. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 2½. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

112. MASTER'S AND ADMINISTRATORS' (and Executors' and Guardians') DEED RECORD, 1881-1918. 1 v. 1859-80, 1919-- in Warranty Deed Record, entry 107.

Recordation of master's, administrators', executors', and guardians' deeds, showing date, names of master, administrator, executor or guardian, and grantee, consideration, legal description of property, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. For index, see entry 106. 1881-1913, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1914-18, typed on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

113. DEED RECORD (Tuscola Chamber of Commerce), 1906-24. 1 v. 1925-- in Warranty Deed Record, entry 107.

Recordation of deeds to property sold by Tuscola Chamber of Commerce, showing date, names of grantor and grantee, consideration, legal description of property, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. For index, see entry 106. Hdw. on pr. fm. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2½. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

114. DEED RECORD (Illinois Central Railroad Company), 1859-89. 1 v. 1890-- in Warranty Deed Record, entry 107.

Recordation of deeds to property sold by Illinois Central Railroad Company, showing date, names of grantor and grantee, legal description of property, consideration, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. For index, see entry 106. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Mortgages - Real Property

115. MORTGAGE RECORD, 1859--. 97 v. (1-97).

Record of mortgages, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date and amount of indenture, legal description of property, names of witnesses, and dates of maturity and filing. Arr. by date of filing. For index, see entry 116. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

116. GENERAL INDEX TO MORTGAGE RECORDS, 1859--. 12 v. (1-6, mortgagor; 1-6, mortgagee).

Index to Mortgage Record, entry 115, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date and type of instrument, consideration, legal description of property, record book and page number, and date of filing. 1908--. loose-leaf system used. Arr. alph. by names of mortgagor and mortgagee. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 350 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

117. RELEASE RECORD, 1870--. 39 v. (1-39).

Recordation of mortgage releases, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date of release, description of property, amount involved, name of person granting release, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of mortgagor. 1870-1913, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1914--, typed on pr. fm. 460 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

118. INDEX TO RELEASE DEEDS (Index to Marginal Releases), 1905-32.

2 v. (1, 1). Discontinued.

Index to releases entered on margin of mortgage records, showing names of grantor and grantee, dates of instrument and release, and book and page of record. Arr. alph. by names of grantor and grantee. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 1½. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Mortgages - Chattel

119. CHATTEL MORTGAGE RECORD, 1860--. 60 v. (A-I, K-Y, A-W, W-Z, 1-9).

Recordation of chattel mortgages and trust deeds, showing date, names of mortgagor and mortgagee, description of property, and amount and terms of mortgage. Arr. by date of filing. For index, see entry 120. Hdw., typed, and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. V. A-I, K-Y, 1860-1901, common vlt., bsmt.; v. A-W, W-Z, 1-9, 1902--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

120. CHATTEL MORTGAGE INDEX, 1860--. 4 v. (1-4).

Index to Chattel Mortgage Record, entry 119, showing date, names of mortgagor and mortgagee, and record book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by name of mortgagor. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. V. 1, 1860-1901, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 2-4, 1902--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption (See also entry 98[iv])

121. (SHERIFF'S CERTIFICATES OF LEVY, SALE, AND REDEMPTION), 1872--. 1 f.b. 1859-71 in (Common Law Files), entry 212.

Sheriff's certificates of levy, sale, redemption, and purchase, showing date, names of parties to suit, description of property, and amount of redemption. Arr. by date of certificate. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4½ x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

122. SHERIFF'S CERTIFICATE OF SALE, 1876--. 1 f.b.

Sheriff's original certificates of sale, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, witnesses, purchaser, and sheriff, location and description of property, date and amount of sale, and acknowledgment. Arr. by date of certificate. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

123. SHERIFF'S SALE RECORD, 1859-1923. 2 v. (1, A). 1924-- in Miscellaneous Records, entry 131.

Recordation of sheriff's certificates of levy, sale, purchase, and redemption, showing names of owner and purchaser or redeemer, and legal description of property. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of owner or purchaser. 1859-1915, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1916-23, typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

124. MASTER'S CERTIFICATES SALES AND REDEMPTION, 1868-1920. 2 v.

(1, 2). 1921-- in Miscellaneous Records, entry 131.

Recordation of master-in-chancery certificates of sale and redemption, showing date and amount of sale, name of purchaser, date and amount of redemption, name of redeemer, and description of property. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of purchaser. 1868-1915, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1916-20, typed on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

For original master's certificates, see entry 218.

Bonds of Officers (See
also entries 91, 131)

125. COLLECTORS' BOND RECORD, 1872-1918. 1 v. Discontinued.

Recordation of bonds of township collectors, showing date and amount of bond, and names of township, bonded officials, and sureties. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of person bonded. 1872-1914, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1915-18, typed on pr. fm. 412 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

126. BOND RECORD (Township Treasurers, Miscellaneous), 1890-1926. 1 v.

Record of township treasurers' bonds, showing date, names of principal and sureties, amount and condition of bond, and approval by school trustees. Also includes bonds of master in chancery, county clerk, county treasurer, township treasurers' additional bonds, and bonds of trustees of estates. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of principal. 1890-1913, hdw. and hdw. on pr. fm.; 1914-26, typed and typed on pr. fm. 300 p. 16 x 11 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

For subsequent original township treasurers' bonds, see entry 314.

Other Instruments

127. SOLDIERS' DISCHARGE RECORD, 1865--. 2 v. (A, B).

Recordation of certificates of soldiers' discharge from the United States Army, showing name, rank, and personal description of soldier, deportment, period of enlistment, company and regiment, reason for discharge, date and place of birth, former occupation, and service record. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of soldier. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

128. RECORD OF CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION OF TRUSTEES, 1872--. 2 v.

(1, 2).

Recordation of election certificates of church and society trustees, showing date, names of trustee, organization, and witnesses, date of election, and term of service. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of trustee. Hdw. on pr. fm. 350 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

129. LEASE RECORD, 1905--. 1 v. (1). Last entry 1907.

Recordation of oil and gas leases, showing names of lessee and lessor, description and location of land, consideration, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of lessor. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 p. 18 x 12 x 1. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

130. REGISTER OF FARM NAMES, 1915--. 1 v. (1).

List of registered farm names, showing date of registration, name of owner, and location and name of farm. Arr. by date of registration. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 150 p. 10 x 14 x 1. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

131. MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS, 1870--. 14 v. (1-14).

Recordation of miscellaneous documents, including judgments, foreclosures, and mechanics' liens, showing date, names of parties to suit, amount involved, and disposition of case. Also contains bonds of master in chancery, county clerk, county treasurer, and trustees of estates, 1927--; Sheriff's Sale Record, 1924--, entry 123; Master's Certificates Sales and Redemption, 1921--, entry 124; and Index of Liens on Chattels (Record), 1870-1920, entry 132. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. 1870-1903, hdw. on pr. fm; 1904--, typed on pr. fm. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

132. INDEX OF LIENS ON CHATTELS (Record), 1921--. 1 v. 1870-1920 in Miscellaneous Records, entry 131.

Recordation of liens on chattels, showing date, kind, and amount of lien, names of claimant and owner, description of chattel, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of claimant. Typed on pr. fm. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

133. ABSTRACT LANDS (and Lots), 1836-1915. 7 v. (2 not numbered, 1-3, 8, 9). Discontinued.

Abstracts of titles to land and lots in Douglas County, showing date and kind of instrument, record book and page number, names of grantor and grantee, description of property, and date of filing. Arr. by sec. and twp. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 19 x 14 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

134. STALLION REGISTER, 1910-20. 1 v. Discontinued.

Register of stallion certificates, showing owner's name, pedigree of horse, and date and number of registration certificate. Arr. by date of certificate. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

135. LIENS ON GETS, 1900. 1 v. Discontinued.

Claims of owners of stallions for liens on gets, showing dates of service and claim, names of claimant and owner of mare, and description of mare. Arr. by date of claim. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. on pr. fm. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Common vlt., bsmt.

Plats
(See also entries 331-333)

136. (SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATES), 1872-99. 1 f.b.
Certifications of surveys made by county surveyor, showing date, description of land or lot surveyed, name of owner, and location of lines run and markers established. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw.
10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

137. PLAT RECORD, 1836--. 1 v. (D). Last entry 1928.
Transcription of Town Plat Record, 1836-1919, entry 138, and original maps, plats, and surveyor's certificates, 1920--, showing date, name of owner, description of lot, land, or cemetery surveyed, lines run and bench marks established. Arr. by lot, block, addition, sec., twp., and range. Indexed by name of addition, subdivision, or cemetery. Typed and hand-drawn. 1 in. to 100 ft. - 1 in. to 200 ft. 300 p. 18 x 18 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

138. TOWN PLAT RECORD, 1836-1919. 3 v. (A-C).
Maps and plats of town surveys with certificates of survey of county surveyor, showing date, location and description of land surveyed, name of owner, lines run, and markers established. This record has been transcribed into Plat Record, entry 137. Arr. by lot, block, addition, sec., twp., and range. Indexed by name of addition, subdivision, or cemetery. Hdw. and hand-drawn. 1 in. to 100 ft. - 1 in. to 200 ft. 50 p.
27 x 27 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

139. ROAD PLAT RECORD, 1915--. 1 v. (1).
Plats and drawings of public roads pasted on pages of record book, showing names of road and township, school and road districts, right of ways, streams, bridges, schools, churches, and cemeteries. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of road. Hdw. and hand-drawn. 200 p. 18 x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

140. PLAT BOOK, DOUGLAS COUNTY, 1867. 1 v.
Plats of the United States survey of various townships in Douglas County, showing location of lines run, and markers established, and certification on August 17, 1867 by the United States recorder of land titles in St. Louis. Arr. by sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. and hand-drawn. 40 chains to 1 in. 100 p. 19 x 15 x 1. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Fees

141. (RECORDER'S REGISTER OF FEES), 1872--. In Register of Fees, entry 244.
Register of fees received for recordation of instruments, showing type of instrument, amount of fee, name of payer, and date of payment.

IV. COUNTY COURT

The county court serves as the judicial branch of county government. This court is administered by the county judge who is elected for a four-year term by the county electorate. Before entering upon the duties of his office, the county judge is required to take and subscribe to an oath which he files with the Secretary of State. The compensation of the Douglas county judge was originally set at \$2.50 per diem for holding court, which was paid quarterly out of the county treasury.¹ Today the judge in this county receives \$2,250 per annum.² The court hears and determines matters in which it has original or concurrent jurisdiction, including appeals from the justice of the peace and police magistrates.³

The Constitution of 1848 and legislation of 1849 provided for a civil and criminal court with jurisdiction coextensive with the county lines.⁴ The court created was the county court. This unit of county government was established with a partial reversion to the dual function, administrative and judicial, of the local judiciary in Illinois under the Territorial Laws prior to 1818. The court was different from the territorial courts in that its composition varied for each of the two functions. The judicial court was administered by the county judge, who was elected by the county electorate and commissioned by the Governor. His original four-year tenure of office has remained effective to the present.⁵ As the administrative body, the court was made up of the county judge and two justices of the peace.⁶

Under the second constitution complete separation of county business powers from the judicial could be had with the acceptance by the county electorate of an independent administrative body, the board of supervisors, established under township organization.⁷ This plan of government was not selected immediately, and Douglas was governed by the dual county court until 1868 when the county board of supervisors became successor to the county court in its jurisdiction over county affairs and business.⁸ From that date on, the county court has served only as a judicial court in Douglas County.

1. L.1849, p. 62,63.

2. L.1933, p. 616.

3. R.S.1874, p. 339,340; L.1881, p. 70.

4. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 1,16; L.1849, p. 62.

5. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 17; L.1849, p. 62; R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1933, p. 451.

6. L.1849, p. 65.

7. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 6; L.1849, p. 192,202-4;; L.1851, p. 38,50-52.

8. Douglas County adopted township organization in 1867 but it did not become effective until 1868.

County Court

The county court as established in 1849 was vested with the same civil and criminal jurisdiction as the justices of the peace. The county judge was made a conservator of the peace. He was given the same power and authority as the circuit judge in preserving order in the court and punishing contempts offered the court while in session.¹ The county court was given exclusive original jurisdiction in suits for the sale of delinquent lands for taxes.² The court also exercised jurisdiction equal with that of the circuit court over naturalization.³

In addition to its civil and criminal jurisdiction, the court was vested with all the powers and jurisdiction in probate matters which were vested prior to this date in the court of the probate justice. The court was given concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit court in hearing and determining applications for the sale of real estate of deceased persons and for the payment of debts for the estate.⁴ In Douglas County the county judge has served to the present day in his ex-officio capacity as judge of the probate court.⁵

The law jurisdiction of the county court in Douglas County is concurrent with that of the circuit court in that class of cases wherein the justices of the peace have jurisdiction where the value of the amount in controversy does not exceed \$1,000,⁶ in all cases of appeals from justices of the peace and police magistrates, and in all criminal offenses and misdemeanors where the punishment is not imprisonment in the penitentiary or death.⁷ The county court also has original jurisdiction in matters relating to indigent mothers⁸ and jurisdiction over insane persons not charged with crime.⁹

The county and circuit courts have original jurisdiction in cases of juvenile offenders. This jurisdiction is over matters dealing with de-

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1. L.1849, p. 65.
 2. Ibid., p. 126.
 3. 2 U.S.Stat.L. 155.
 4. L.1849, p. 65.
 5. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16,18; L.1849, p. 65; Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 18; R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1933, p. 449.
 6. Under the laws of 1872 and the revised statutes of 1874, the jurisdiction was in cases wherein the amount involved did not exceed \$500. (L.1871-72, p. 325; R.S.1874, p. 340). Legislation enacted in 1933 extended the jurisdiction to \$2,000 (L.1933, p. 452), but a later amendment of the same session, passed June 21, 1933, placed the jurisdiction in cases where the amount involved is not over \$1,000 (Ibid., p. 449).
 7. R.S.1874, p. 340; L.1877, p. 77; L.1895, p. 212,223; L.1933, p. 448.
 8. L.1913, p. 127; L.1915, p. 243; L.1921, p. 164; L.1935, p. 256.
 9. L.1869, p. 366; R.S.1874, p. 685.

County Court

pendent, neglected, and delinquent children. The authority includes provision for the treatment, control, maintenance, adoption, and guardianship of such children.¹

In 1899 provision was made for the appointment by the court of a juvenile probation officer to serve without compensation from the public treasury and at the pleasure of the court.² In 1907 an amendment to this act authorized the court to allow compensation to such officers in a sum to be set by the county board, but the power of the court to appoint probation officers to serve without pay was in no way abridged by this legislation.³ An amendment of 1925 provided that if more than one probation officer were appointed, one was to be designated as chief probation officer. To be eligible for the position of chief probation officer, the candidate was required to have had experience in social welfare work equivalent to one year spent in active, practical welfare work. Minimum rates, based upon population, were established for the compensation of these officers, the county board to fix the amount. Where a county had only one probation officer, the salary rates were made to apply to that individual. The court, however, retains the power to appoint probation officers to serve without pay.⁴ For Douglas County, and others with a population not exceeding twenty-five thousand,⁵ the rate is set at a sum of \$50 a year for each thousand inhabitants, but not to exceed \$900 annually.

The officer under consideration makes investigation on order of the court and takes charge of the child before and after trial. He is required to be present at the court hearings in order that he may represent the interest of the child. This officer also furnishes information and assistance as required by the court.⁶

Upon petition filed with the clerk of the court for the removal of a neglected or dependent child from the custody of its parents or guardian, process is issued for appearance. The summons may be served by the sheriff or the duly appointed probation officer.⁷

At any time after the filing of the petition and pending the final disposition, the court may allow the child to remain in the possession of its custodian, or in its home subject to the visitation of the probation officer; or the child may be ordered in custody of the probation officer.⁸

1. L.1899, p. 131-37; L.1901, p. 141-44; L.1905, p. 152-56; L.1907, p. 70-78.

2. L.1899, p. 133.

3. L.1907, p. 69,70.

4. L.1925, p. 187,188.

5. In 1930 the population of Douglas County was listed as 17,910 (Population Bulletin, Illinois, U.S. Census 1930, p. 8).

6. L.1899, p. 133; L.1925, p. 187,188.

7. L.1899, p. 132,133; L.1905, p. 153,154; L.1907, p. 72,73.

8. L.1907, p. 74.

County Court

If upon hearing the case the court finds the child to be dependent or neglected, the court may commit the child to an association or institution, or allow the child to remain in his home subject to the visitation of the probation officer.¹ In a similar fashion the probation officer for adults, an appointee of the circuit court, assists the county court in the administration of justice among adult violators.²

In cases of delinquency, if the court finds any child to be delinquent, the court may commit the child to an institution or to the custody of the probation officer. The court may, upon its discretion, send juvenile offenders and vagrants to the state reform school rather than to the county jail.³

Another probation officer, also an appointee of the county court, assists the court in mothers' pension cases. The state and county funds for indigent mothers and their children are administered by the county court, its appointed probation officers, the county board with the assistance of the county clerk, the county treasurer, and the State Department of Public Welfare. The county court, however, is given original jurisdiction in these matters.⁴

A mother whose husband is dead or incapacitated, or who is abandoned by her husband, is entitled to the benefits of the mothers' pension fund. Such mother in need may file an application with the county court for relief. The case of the applicant is then investigated by the probation officer under the direction of the court.⁵ A report and recommendation of the approval or disapproval of such application is then made by this officer to the court. If the application is approved, the probation officer or other person may file with the clerk of the court a written petition verified by affidavit setting forth the facts giving the court jurisdiction and other facts upon which an order for relief is entered. Upon receipt of the petition, a summons is issued to the mother and the county board for appearance. The usual procedure is for the board to make a written appearance. Upon the hearing in court, the court may make an order upon the county board to pay monthly such money as may be necessary for the care of the mother and her child or children in accordance with the provisions of law.

To carry out this procedure, the county court appoints the probation officer who serves during the pleasure of the court and is compensated for his services by the county in such amount as determined by the county board.

1. L.1923, p. 180,181.

2. L.1911, p. 280-82.

3. L.1907, p. 75.

4. L.1913, p. 127; L.1915, p. 243; L.1921, p. 164; L.1935, p. 256.

5. L.1913, p. 127; L.1915, p. 244; L.1935, p. 256,257.

6. L.1913, p. 127-29; L.1935, p. 257.

County Court

As noted above, this officer is required to investigate all applications for relief and make a written report to the court. In addition to this duty, the probation officer makes quarterly visits and supervises, under the direction of the court, the families to which such assistance has been granted.¹

The county board annually levies a tax on all taxable property to provide for the mothers' pension fund. The levy is made not in excess of two-fifths of one mill on a dollar in Douglas County.² In addition the General Assembly, from time to time, makes appropriations to the State Department of Public Welfare, the funds, in turn, being distributed to the several counties to supplement the pension fund. To become entitled to the state appropriations, the county must meet the standards of administration set by the state agency. The county treasurer certifies to the state department an itemized statement, attested by the county clerk, of the money paid out during each quarter in accordance with the legislative provisions for this pension and also certifies annually the total assessed valuation and amount of money raised by tax levy for the mothers' pension fund.³

Jurisdiction in the election procedure is vested variously in the county board, the county court, and the county clerk. In the event that any city, village, or incorporated town adopts the City Election Act the county judge appoints a board of three election commissioners to have charge of elections in that political unit. Only one such board, however, is appointed in each county. This board has jurisdiction over elections in all cities, villages, or incorporated towns which may adopt the act.⁴ Otherwise, jurisdiction is vested in the county board, county court, and county clerk. The county court has original jurisdiction in election contests for certain county, district, and township offices.⁵

Aiding in the settlement of questions arising in the course of the election procedure is the county officers' electoral board. This body consists of the county judge as chairman, the county clerk, and the state's attorney.⁶

The several nomination papers for county offices are filed with the county clerk and are considered valid unless objections are made within five days after the last day for filing such papers. Objections to nominations are made to the county officers' electoral board for any office of

1. L.1913, p. 129,130; L.1935, p. 258.

2. L.1919, p. 780,781; L.1927, p. 196,197; L.1928, First Sp. Sess., p. 3,4; L.1933, p. 194.

3. L.1935, p. 259.

4. L.1885, p. 147-49; L.1899, p. 163-65; L.1917, p. 445,446; L.1929, p. 399; L.1933, p. 534; L.1935-36, Fourth Sp. Sess., p. 35.

5. L.1871-72, p. 396.

6. L.1891, p. 110; L.1933, p. 552.

County Court

the county, park district, or other division coterminous with or less than the county and other than a city, village, incorporated town, or township.¹ The objector's petition is filed with the county clerk who presents the same, together with the nomination papers or certificate, before the electoral board.² The petition contains the objector's name and residence, the nature of the objection, the interest of the objector, and the relief sought of the board.³ A notice of the hearing is sent to the candidate. Upon hearing the objections, the board renders a final decision by majority vote. In the event the candidate whose nomination is protested is a member of the electoral board, the circuit judge is required to fill his place.⁴

Jurisdiction is vested in the county court to hear and determine all questions relative to taxes on gifts, legacies, and inheritance.⁵ The act granting this jurisdiction is generally known as the "Inheritance Tax Law." Originally, the state's attorney was charged with the duty of enforcing the provision of this law,⁶ however, since 1913 these duties have been performed by the Attorney General.⁷ Under that law the county judge and the county clerk are required every three months to make a statement in writing to the county treasurer of the property from which or the party from whom he has reasons to believe a tax under this act is due and unpaid.⁸ The county treasurer is required to collect and pay to the State Treasurer all taxes that may be due and payable under it.⁹

Under an act of 1933, housing corporations may be organized in Illinois for the express purpose of improving housing conditions.¹⁰ Such corporations are subject to the supervision and control of the State Housing Board. This state agency has authority, after investigations and public hearings, to approve the acquisition of property and construction of housing projects. If the State Housing Board approves a project over the objections of ten percent of the property owners within a mile, but not included in the project, it must then file an application with the clerk of the county court to be submitted to the county judge for the confirmation of its approval. Such application is to contain copies of the findings and order of the board, transcript of testimony, description of the project and public spaces, statement of location, and reasons for approval by the board. The objectors to the project may file objections in the county court to the confirmation of such

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1. L.1891, p. 110,111; L.1929, p. 394.
 2. L.1891, p. 111; L.1929, p. 394; L.1933, p. 552.
 3. L.1929, p. 394,395.
 4. L.1933, p. 552.
 5. L.1895, p. 306; L.1909, p. 318.
 6. L.1895, p. 306; L.1909, p. 319.
 7. L.1913, p. 515,516; L.1935, p. 1179,1180.
 8. L.1895, p. 306; L.1909, p. 319; L.1913, p. 516.
 9. L.1895, p. 307; L.1909, p. 319; L.1913, p. 516.
 10. L.1933, p. 396-415; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 167-74.

County Court

a project. The county judge then examines the application, objections, and any additional evidence before rendering a decision of "approved" or "not approved" of the application.¹

Appeals from the judgments and decisions of the county court may be taken to the circuit court.² To the appellate court or Supreme Court may be taken and prosecuted appeals and writs of error in proceedings for the sale of lands for taxes and special assessments, in all common law and attachment cases, and in cases of forcible detainer and forcible entry and detainer. Such appeals and writs of error are, when not otherwise provided, taken and prosecuted in the same manner as appeals and writs of error from the circuit court.³

The records of the county court are kept by its clerk. In Douglas County the county clerk is ex-officio clerk of the county court. In addition to the statutory records described below the clerk necessarily maintains others in effecting the court's orders.⁴

For the court the clerk keeps the following records:

1. Books of record of the proceedings and judgments of the court with alphabetical indexes by names of parties. Proceedings are recorded at length only in cases designated by law or when the court, at the motion and assumption of expenses by one of the parties, so orders. In practice, the court record has been broken down from an early date into segregated types of proceedings and judgments.
2. "Plaintiff-Defendant Index to Court Records" and "Defendant-Plaintiff Index to Court Records," intended to be separate records, but frequently combined in a single volume with the two indexes segregated in each volume.
3. A general docket in which all suits are entered in the order they are commenced.
4. A judgment and execution docket containing a column for the entry of satisfaction or other disposition. In practice, an execution docket is frequently set up independently.

1. L.1933, p. 396-415; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 167-74.

2. R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1933, p. 396.

3. R.S.1874, p. 339; L.1877, p. 77; L.1881, p. 66.

4. The form which such records take is generally determined by court order (L.1849, p. 66; R.S.1874, p. 263).

5. Additional dockets, designated as the clerk's, judge's, and bar docket. In practice, the bar docket has tended to drop out of use.¹
6. A fee book in which costs and fees are to be entered under the proper title of the cause. In practice, separate series of volumes are maintained under these titles of causes.
7. Transcripts of proceedings in appeals from justices' courts, dockets thereof, and transcripts of judgment for liens, etc., from justices' courts.
8. Naturalization records including petitions, proceedings, final certificates, etc. The county courts in Illinois prior to 1906 met the requirement of Federal statutes to exercise naturalization jurisdiction.²
9. Original documents used in court hearings and determinations; of particular importance in the large number of cases where complete proceedings are not spread on court record.³
10. Monthly reports of the warden of the county jail containing a list of all prisoners in his custody and showing the cause of commitment and names of persons by whom committed.⁴

Proceedings of Court

142. INDEX TO FILES (and Records), 1859--. 2 v. (1, 2). Index to (County Court Files Common Law), entry 144; Common Law Record, entry 145; (County Court Files Criminal Cases), entry 146; County Court Record Criminal, entry 147; Common Law Fee Books, entry 158, and Fee Book, Criminal, entry 169, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, title of cause, book and page of record, and case and file numbers. Volume 2 is a transcript of volume 1. Also contains (Index to Probate Files), entry 180. Arr. alph. by name of plaintiff. V. 1, 1859--., hdw. under pr. hdgs.; v. 2, 1859--., typed under pr. hdgs. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

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1. The Civil Practice Act of 1933 grants authority to county courts, subject to rules promulgated by the Supreme Court and not inconsistent with statutory requirements, to make such rules as they may deem expedient, regulating dockets and calendars of said court (L.1933, p. 786).
 2. 2 U.S.Stat.L. 153; U.S.R.S.1789-1874, p. 378.
 3. R.S.1845, p. 323, 324, 414, 418, 419; L.1865, p. 79, 80; L.1871-72, p. 325; R.S.1874, p. 262, 263, 339; L.1877, p. 77; L.1933, p. 443, 451; 2 U.S.Stat.L. 153-55; U.S.R.S.1789-1874, p. 378-80; 34 U.S.Stat.L. 596-607; 44 U.S.Stat.L. 709, 710.
 4. R.S.1874, p. 616; L.1933, p. 678.

143. INDEX TO COURT RECORDS, PLAINTIFF - DEFENDANT, 1872-74. 2 v.
(1, plaintiff; 1, defendant). Discontinued.

Index to Common Law Record, entry 145, and County Court Record Criminal, entry 147, showing case number, names of plaintiff and defendant, date and kind of action, court term, amount of judgment, and reference to record, judgment docket, and fee book. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

144. (COUNTY COURT FILES COMMON LAW), 1872--. 26 f.b.

Original documents in common law cases, including summonses, subpoenas, citations, bills of complaint, transcripts of evidence, defendants' answers, jury verdicts, and orders of the court. Arr. by date of filing of case. For index, see entry 142. Hdw. and typed. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

145. COMMON LAW RECORD, 1872--. 5 v. (1-5). Last entry 1933.

Cases subsequent to 1933 are not yet recorded.

Record of common law cases, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, term date, kind of action, court orders, and final disposition of case. Also contains Record of Findings - Feeble-minded, 1872-1918, entry 150, and Default Record, 1891--, entry 153. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff; for sep. index, see entry 142; for additional index, 1872-74, see entry 143. 1872-1911, hdw.; 1912--, hdw. and typed. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

146. (COUNTY COURT FILES CRIMINAL CASES), 1894--. 21 f.b.

Original documents in criminal cases, including summonses, subpoenas, indictments, transcripts of evidence, waivers and verdicts of jury, criminal capias, appeals, and orders of the court. Arr. by date of filing of case. For index, see entry 142. Hdw. and typed. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

147. COUNTY COURT RECORD CRIMINAL, 1872--. 7 v. (1-7). Last entry 1933. Criminal cases subsequent to 1933 are not yet recorded.

Record of criminal cases in county court, showing term date, name of defendant, nature of offense, action taken, and court orders. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of defendant; for sep. index, see entry 142; for additional index, 1872-74, see entry 143. 1872-1912, hdw.; 1913--, typed. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

148. (INSANITY CASE PAPERS), 1859--. In (Probate Files), entry 179.

Papers in insanity cases, including petitions, testimony of witnesses, interrogatories of insane, jury venires, summonses, and verdicts, reports of commission, and court orders of commitment or releases of insane.

149. INSANE RECORD, 1883--. 3 v. (A-C). 1859-82 in County Court Record (Probate), entry 181.

Record of insanity cases tried by jury or commission, showing date, name of alleged insane, condition at inquiry and prior thereto, family history, verdict of jury or finding of commission, appointment of conservator, and court order of commitment. Arr. by case date. Indexed alph. by name of alleged insane. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

150. RECORD OF FINDINGS - FEEBLE-MINDED, 1919--. 1 v. (1). 1872-1918 in Common Law Record, entry 145.

Record of proceedings in feeble-minded cases, showing date, names of petitioner and alleged feeble-minded person, report of findings of examining board, and disposition of case. Arr. by date of petition. Indexed alph. by name of alleged feeble-minded person. Hdw. on pr. fm. 450 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

151. (LOCAL DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PAPERS), 1916--. In (Probate Files), entry 179.

Petitions, court orders, and assessment rolls in special assessment cases for local drainage improvements for towns and villages.

152. DRAINAGE RECORD (Local Improvements), 1916--. 1 v. (1). Last entry 1926.

Record of petitions for special drainage tax for local improvements on streets and alleys, showing names of petitioners, date of petition, type of improvement, and court action on petition. Arr. by date of petition. No index. Typed. 350 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

153. DEFAULT RECORD, 1872-90. 1 v. 1891-- in Common Law Record, entry 145.

Record of judgments by default in county court, showing date, names of plaintiff and defendant, amounts of judgment and costs, and orders of court. Arr. by date of judgment. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 566 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

154. ADOPTION RECORDS, 1907. 1 v. 1859-1906, 1908-- in County Court Record (Probate), entry 181.

Record of adoptions, showing date, names of child, parents, and person making adoption, and court orders. Arr. by date of entry. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 360 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Dockets

Court Dockets

155. JUDGE'S DOCKET COUNTY COURT (Law), 1872--. 3 v. (1-3).

County judge's docket of common law cases, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, amount of bond, if any, and abstract of proceedings. Also contains Judge's Docket Criminal, 1872-82, entry 156, and Docket Feeble-Minded, 1872-1916, entry 162. Arr. by date of filing of case. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

156. JUDGE'S DOCKET CRIMINAL, 1883--. 5 v. (B-F). 1872-82 in Judge's Docket County Court (Law), entry 155.

Judge's docket of criminal cases in county court, showing term date, case number, names of plaintiff and defendant, nature of charge, and abstract of proceedings. Arr. by date of filing of case. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

157. JUDGMENT AND EXECUTION DOCKET, 1872--. 3 v. (1, B, C).

Docket of judgments entered and executions issued, showing docket number, names of plaintiff and defendant, date of judgment, kind of action, amount of debt, damages and costs, reference to book and page of court record, court orders, and remarks as to satisfaction. Volume 1 contains transcriptions of Judgment Docket, entry 158, and Execution Docket, entry 160. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

158. JUDGMENT DOCKET, 1872-88. 1 v.

Docket of judgments entered, showing names of attorneys, plaintiff, and defendant, type of action, reference to book and page of court record, date of judgment, against whom entered, amounts of judgment and costs, and notation of satisfaction. This docket has been transcribed into Judgment and Execution Docket, entry 157. Arr. by date of entry. For index, see entry 159. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

159. INDEX TO JUDGMENT DOCKET, 1872-88. 2 v. (1 plaintiff; 1 defendant).

Index to Judgment Docket, entry 158, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, and book and page of entry in docket. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

160. EXECUTION DOCKET, 1872-80. 1 v.

Docket of executions issued in judgment cases, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date of execution, to whom issued, amounts of damages and costs, and reference to fee book and page of entry. This docket has been transcribed into Judgment and Execution Docket, entry 157. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of person against whom judgment is entered. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

161. INSANITY DOCKET, 1893--. 3 v. (1, 1, 2). Title varies: Findings and Orders of Lunacy. 1859-92 in Transfer Probate Judge's Docket, entry 202.

Docket of insanity cases, showing date, names of alleged insane person, petitioner, witnesses, jurors, and commissioners, verdict of jury or report of commission, and court orders. Arr. by date of case. Indexed alph. by name of alleged insane. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 1½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

162. DOCKET FEEBLE-MINDED, 1917--. 1 v. (1). 1872-1916 in Judge's Docket County Court (Law), entry 155.

Docket of feeble-minded cases, showing dates of petition, appointment, report of commission, and commitment or discharge of alleged feeble-minded person, names of petitioner and defendant, and court orders. Arr. by date of case. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 1½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

163. GENERAL DOCKET, 1884-98. 2 v. (1, 1). Discontinued.

General docket of county court cases, showing term dates, case number, type of case, date of commencement, names of plaintiff and defendant, and kind of action. Arr. by date of filing suit. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

164. CLERK'S DOCKET, 1872-83. 3 v. Discontinued.

Clerk's docket of county court cases, showing term dates, names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, kind of action, nature of offense, and court orders. Arr. by date of filing suit. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 350 p. 14 x 9 x 1½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

165. COURT DOCKET, 1872-73. 1 v. Discontinued.

Docket of cases in county court, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, amount of fines and costs assessed by court, and date of trial. Arr. by date of filing suit. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 18 x 14 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

166. BAR DOCKET, 1870-82. 2 v. Discontinued.

Bar docket showing case number, names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, and nature of case. Arr. by date of filing suit. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 14 x 9 x 1. Common vlt., bsmt.

Justices' Dockets (See also entries 228, 230)

167. JUSTICE OF THE PEACE DOCKET, 1878-1935. 25 v. (7 not numbered, 1-18). Current dockets in hands of present justices.

Justice of the peace dockets. showing names of plaintiff and defendant, dates of summons, service, and return, amounts of damages in civil cases, and fines, judgments, and costs in peoples' cases, and court orders. Arr. by date of filing suit. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 2. 7 v. not numbered, v. 1-12, 1878-1924, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 13-18, 1925-35, co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Fee Books
(See also entry 94)

168. COMMON LAW FEE BOOKS, 1872-85, 1890--. 6 v. (A, 1-5). Title varies: Fee Book Civil Cases. 1886-89 in Fee Book, Criminal entry 169.

List of fees received in common law cases in county court, showing date, names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, amount of fees, and name of payee. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of defendant; for sep. index, see entry 142. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

169. FEE BOOK, CRIMINAL, 1872--. 8 v. (1-8). Title varies: Fee Book Law and Criminal.

List of fees received in criminal cases in county court, showing date and amount of fees, against whom charged, and name of defendant. Also contains Common Law Fee Book, 1886-89, entry 168. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of defendant; for sep. index, see entry 142. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

170. INSANITY AND MISCELLANEOUS FEE BOOKS, 1912--. 1 v. (C).

Record of fees received in miscellaneous county court cases including fees in dependency, delinquency, insanity, special assessment, condemnation, and highway cases; also conservator's fees, 1927--. Also contains Probate Fee Book - Guardian, 1918--, entry 209. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of subject or person involved. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

For prior record of insanity and conservator fees, see entry 208.

Reports to Court

171. JUSTICE OF THE PEACE RECORD (Report of Fines), 1889--. 2 v. (A, 6, 1889-1914); 1 f.b. (1915--).

Copies of reports of fines collected by justices of the peace, showing date, names of defendant and justice, type of misdemeanor, amount of fine, and notation as to whether paid by cash or by road labor. Arr. by date of entry. 1889-1914, indexed alph. by name of justice of the peace; 1915--, no index. 1889-92, 1915--, hdw.; 1893-1914, hdw. under pr. hdgs. V. 288 p. 13 x 9 x 1; f.b. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. 2 v., co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.; 1 f.b., co. clk.'s off., 2nd fl.

Jury Lists
(See also entries 2, 7, 14, 27, 148, 255-257)

172. JURY LIST, 1872--. 2 v. (A, B).

List of jurors drawn for service in county court, showing date, name and address of juror, court term for which selected, and type of jury. Arr. alph. by name of juror. No index. 1872-1929, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1930--, typed under pr. hdgs. 250 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Probation

Juvenile

173. (DEPENDENT AND DELINQUENT CHILDREN CASE PAPERS), 1899--. In (Probate Files), entry 179.

Papers in dependent and delinquent children cases, including petitions, summonses to bring child to court, reports of probation officers, and court orders establishing custody of child.

Mothers' Pension

174. DOCKET (and Record) OF MOTHERS' PENSIONS, 1912--. 2 v. (1, 2). Docket of mothers' pension cases, showing date, name of applicant, names and ages of dependent children, and notations of court orders. Also contains Record of Mothers' Pensions, 1930--, entry 175. Arr. by date of case. Indexed alph. by name of applicant. 1912-24, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1925--, typed under pr. hdgs. 160 - 400 p. 18 x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$ - 14 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

175. RECORD OF MOTHERS' PENSIONS, 1913-29. 1 v. 1930--in Docket (and Record) of Mothers' Pensions, entry 174. Mothers' pension register showing name of mother, date of judge's order, amount of pension, payment date, date and amount of warrants, and name of payee. Arr. by date of order. Indexed alph. by name of mother. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 160 p. 18 x 12 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Naturalization
(See also entries 262-265)

176. NATURALIZATION RECORD (Minor), 1904. 1 v. 1872-1903 in Naturalization Record, entry 178. Record of petitions, declarations, oaths, and final certificates of naturalization of minors, showing name, age, and nativity of minor, names of witnesses, and court orders. Arr. by date of certificate. Indexed alph. by name of minor. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

177. NATURALIZATION RECORD (Adult), 1904. 1 v. 1872-1903 in Naturalization Record, entry 178. Record of declarations, petitions, oaths, and final certificates of naturalization of adults, showing name, age, nativity, and residence of alien, date and mode of arrival, names of witnesses, and court orders. Arr. by date of certificate. Indexed alph. by name of alien. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

178. NATURALIZATION RECORD, 1872-1903. 1 v.

Petitions, declarations, oaths, and final papers for the naturalization of adult and minor aliens, showing date, name, age, nativity, occupation, and residence of alien, names of witnesses, and court order granting citizenship. Subsequently kept as Naturalization Record (Minor) and Naturalization Record (Adult), entries 176 and 177. Arr. by date of certificate. Indexed alph. by name of alien. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

V. PROBATE COURT

Jurisdiction in probate matters in Douglas County has been vested in the county court¹ since the organization of the county in 1859² until the present.³

As enunciated by the present constitution and subsequent legislation, the jurisdiction of the court extends to all probate matters, the settlement of estates of deceased persons, the appointment of guardians and conservators and settlement of their accounts, and in all matters relating to apprentices, and in cases of sales of real estate of deceased persons for payment of debts.⁴ The court has power to impanel a jury for the trial of issues or matters of fact in any of these proceedings before it.⁵

Aiding the court in its jurisdiction over the administration of intestate estates and the guardianship of minors, are respectively, the public administrator and the public guardian. Each officer is appointed quadrennially by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The public administrator and public guardian are required to enter into bonds set and approved by the court in sums not less than \$5,000.⁶ Their duties are performed under the direction and orders of the court. The records that result from their prescribed duties appear among the records of the court with those of other administrators, executors, and guardians.

When there is no relative or creditor who will administer an intestate estate, the court commits the administration to the public administrator upon application of any person interested in the deceased estate.⁷ If a widow, next of kin, or creditor of the deceased appears within six months after the administration is granted to the public administrator,

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1. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16, 18; L.1849, p. 65.
 2. Douglas County was created in 1859. (L.1859, p. 24, 28).
 3. R.S.1874, p. 339, 340; L.1933, p. 449, 458.
 4. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 20; L.1877, p. 80.
 5. R.S.1845, p. 425; L.1933, p. 460.
 6. L.1825, p. 70-72; R.L.1829, p. 208; R.L.1833, p. 627, 628; R.S.1845, p. 548; L.1871-72, p. 89; L.1881, p. 3; L.1889, p. 165.
 7. R.L.1833, p. 628; R.S.1845, p. 548; L.1871-72, p. 89.

the court then revokes its grant of administration to the public administrator and orders letters of administration granted to such person interested in the estate. If, after all debts and charges against the estate which have been presented within two years after the administration of the estate was committed to such public administrator are fully paid, any balance of intestate estate remains, the administrator causes a notice to be published requiring persons still having claims against the estate to present them to the county court within six months. If no claims are presented, the balance is paid into the county treasury upon the expiration of the six-month period, the county remaining answerable to any future claims.¹

As already noted, the court has authority to appoint guardians of minor heirs of deceased persons. In cases where the minor is under fourteen years of age the court appoints his guardian. When the minor is over fourteen he may nominate his own guardian, subject to the approval of the court.² Under the direction of the court, the guardian is responsible for the custody, nurture, and tuition of his ward and the care and management of his estate. The court may assign the guardianship of the estate to one guardian and the custody and tuition of the ward to another.³ Within sixty days after his appointment, the guardian returns to the court a complete inventory of the real and personal estate of the ward in the form prescribed by law.⁴ At the end of the first year of his appointment, and every three years thereafter, he makes a settlement of his accounts. When his trust is completed or upon the death of the ward, the guardian makes final settlement and delivers over to persons entitled to them the property and papers in his hands as guardian.⁵ Upon failure of a guardian appointed by the court to act within three months in this capacity, the court commits the guardianship of the minor to the public guardian.⁶ The latter's records appear with those of other guardians.

From the creation of the county court in 1849, until the present, the county clerk has served as ex-officio probate clerk.⁷ This applies to Douglas County since it was created in 1859.⁸

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1. R.S.1845, p. 549; L.1871-72, p. 89,90.
 2. L.1831, p. 100; L.1835, p. 36; R.S.1845, p. 265,266; L.1873-74, p. 107; L.1919, p. 583; L.1931, p. 618; L.1937, p. 660.
 3. L.1871-72, p. 469; L.1877, p. 114.
 4. L.1919, p. 582; L.1933, p. 644.
 5. L.1871-72, p. 471; L.1919, p. 583; L.1929, p. 506.
 6. L.1889, p. 165.
 7. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 16,18; L.1849, p. 63-65; R.S.1874, p. 260,339,340.
 8. The early probate judge, 1821 to 1837, and the probate justice of the peace, 1837 to 1849, each performed the ministerial function of the probate clerk. (L.1821, p. 119,120; R.L.1829, p. 215; L.1831, p. 192; L.1837, p. 177,178; R.S.1845, p. 427,428).

Probate Court

The clerk is required to attend the sessions of court, issue all process, preserve all files and papers, make, keep, and preserve complete records of all the proceedings and determinations of the court, and perform all other duties pertaining to his office as required by law or the rules and orders of his court. He is required to enter of record all judgments, decrees, and orders of the court.¹

The major records of the probate court kept by the clerk are the following:

1. Journal of all judicial proceedings and determinations of the judge.
2. A judgment docket with a direct and an indirect index: former, by name of claimant against estate; latter, by estate. In practice, the requirement of two indexes often leads to two dockets.
3. Books for recordation of bonds and letters of administrators, executors, guardians, and conservators; appraisement and sale bills; widows' relinquishment and selection of property; wills and the probate thereof; annual and final reports of administrators, executors, guardians, and conservators. Generally, each category of these probate business matters is recorded separately, but the segregation is not always carefully maintained.
4. Separate dockets of unsettled estates and claims against estates, and a ledger of the accounts of executors, administrators, and guardians. Note that the dockets of probate business matters are separated from dockets of court proceedings just as are the books of recordation of the two categories; the intention of the law to make this distinction is further shown in its granting the clerk, during vacation of the court, power to receive petitions, accept bonds, grant letters testamentary, etc.
5. Files of original documents not subject to recordation; indexes to such; records of office transactions in pursuance of the court's orders to the clerk, necessary in the latter's settlement with that body.²

1. L.1877, p. 82.

2. L.1821, p. 119,120; R.L.1829, p. 215,231; R.S.1837, p. 429; R.S.1845, p. 427,428; L.1851, p. 193; L.1859, p. 92-94; R.S.1874, p. 260-65; L.1877, p. 63; L.1933, p. 293.

Proceedings of Court

179. (PROBATE FILES), 1859--. 234 f.b.

Files of probate case papers, including wills, proofs of will and heirship, petitions, oaths, bonds, and letters of administration, inventories, appraisements, widows' relinquishments, selections, and awards, petitions and orders for sale of real and personal property, reports of sales, reports of administrators, current and final accounts, and orders and decrees of court. Also contains (Insanity Case Papers), entry 148; (Local Drainage Improvement Papers), 1916--, entry 151; and (Dependent and Delinquent Children Case Papers), 1899--, entry 173. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 180. Hdw. and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

180. (INDEX TO PROBATE FILES), 1859--. In Index to Files (and Records), entry 142.

Index to (Probate Files), entry 179, showing names of parties, title of cause, and case number.

181. COUNTY COURT RECORD (Probate), 1859--. 31 v. (1-31).

Record of probate cases showing date, case number, names of estate, heirs, and administrators, executors, guardians, or conservators, and court decrees. Also contains Insane Record, 1859-82, entry 149; Adoption Record, 1859-1906, 1908--, entry 154; Probate Judgment Record, 1859-73, entry 182; Bills and Inventories, 1872-73, 1927--, entry 191; Administrators' Report Record, 1859-69, entry 197, including Executors' Report Record, entry 198, and Guardians' (and Conservators') Report Record, entry 199; and Insolvent Estate Record, 1859-76, 1921--, entry 201. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of estate. 1859-1907, hdw.; 1908--, typed. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

182. PROBATE JUDGMENT RECORD, 1874--. 7 v. (B, 3-8). Title varies; Probate Judgment Docket. 1859-73 in County Court Record (Probate), entry 181.

Record of adjudication of claims in probate cases, showing names of estate, judge, and claimant, amount of claim agreed upon by claimant and administrator, and date and amount as ordered by the court. Arr. by court order. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Probate Business
(See also entry 179)

Wills, Bonds, Letters

183. WILL RECORD, 1863--. 4 v. (B-E). Title varies: Record of Wills. Copies of wills, showing date, names of testator, executor, legatee, devisees, and witnesses, and description of property bequeathed. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of estate. 1863-1907, hdw.; 1908--, typed. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

184. ADMINISTRATORS' RECORD, 1859--. 10 v. (1, A, B, D-J). Title varies: Administrators' Bonds and Letters.

Record of administrators' petitions, bonds, oaths, and letters, showing dates of petitions, bonds, oaths, and letters, names of estate, administrator, and sureties, amount and terms of bond, and court orders of approval and appointment. Also contains Executors' Record, 1859-63, entry 186. Arr. by date of document. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

185. ADMINISTRATOR DE BONIS NON AND WILL ANNEXED, 1873-1929. 2 v. (A, A). Title varies: Probate Bonds and Letters Miscellaneous. 1930-- in Miscellaneous Record, entry 99.

Record of petitions, bonds, oaths, and letters of administration with will annexed and de bonis non, showing dates and terms of petition and oath, date, amount, and terms of bond, date of letters, and names of estate, administrator, and sureties. Also contains additional bonds of administrators. Arr. by date of document. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

186. EXECUTORS' RECORD, 1864--. 8 v. (1 not lettered, A-G). Title varies: Executors' Bonds and Letters. 1859-63 in Administrators' Record, entry 184.

Record of petitions, bonds, oaths, and letters of executors, showing dates and terms of petitions, oaths, bonds, and letters, amount of bond, names of estate, executor, and sureties, and court orders. Arr. by date of document. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

187. GUARDIANS' RECORD, BONDS AND LETTERS, 1859--. 7 v. (1, A, 3-7). Record of petitions, oaths, bonds, and letters of guardians, showing dates and terms of petition, oath, bond, and letters, amount of bond, names of estate, guardian, minors, and sureties, and court orders. Also contains Conservators' Record, 1859-93, entry 188. Arr. by date of document. Indexed alph. by name of estate. 1885-92, hdw.; 1893--, hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

188. CONSERVATORS' RECORD, 1894-1932. 2 v. (1, 1 not numbered). 1859-93 in Guardians' Record, Bonds and Letters, entry 187; 1933-- in Miscellaneous Record, entry 99.

Record of petitions, oaths, bonds, and letters of conservators for insane, spendthrift, incompetent, or distracted persons, showing dates and terms of petition, oath, bond, and letters, amount of bond, names of estate, conservator, and sureties, and court orders. Arr. by date of document. Indexed alph. by names of incompetent. Hdw. on pr. fm. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Inventories and Appraisements

189. INVENTORY RECORD, 1866--. 14 v. (A, B, 1866-90; 3-14, 1885--). Inventory lists of real and personal property of estates, as reported by administrator, executor, or conservator, showing date, names of estate and administrator, and list and valuation of all property. Also contains Guardians' Inventory Record, 1866-71, 1906--, entry 190. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. 1866-90, hdw.; 1891--, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

For prior records, see entry 191.

190. GUARDIANS' INVENTORY RECORD, 1872-1905. 1 v. 1866-71, 1906-- in Inventory Record, entry 189. Guardians' inventory record showing date, names of estate, minors, and guardians, and description and valuation of real and personal property. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of minor. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 576 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

191. BILLS AND INVENTORIES, 1859-69. 1 v. 1870-71, 1884-1926 in Sale of Real Estate, entry 194; 1872-73, 1927-- in County Court Record (Probate), entry 181. Missing: 1874-83. Record of sale bills and inventories of real and personal property, showing date, names of estate and purchaser, description of property, and amount of sale. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

192. APPRAISEMENT RECORD, 1866--. 8 v. (2, C-I). Record of estate appraisals, showing date, name of estate, estimate for widow, and copy of appraiser's oath and warrant. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Widows' Relinquishment
and Selection

193. WIDOWS' RELINQUISHMENT AND SELECTION, 1867--. 4 v. (A, 2-4). Record of widows' relinquishments and selections, showing date, names of estate, widow, and heirs, list of items selected and relinquished, and court orders. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Petitions, Reports of Sale

194. SALE OF REAL ESTATE, 1870-1926. 5 v. (A, A-D). Missing: 1872-83.
Title varies: Proceedings on Petition to Sell Real Estate.
1927-- in Miscellaneous Record, entry 99.

Record of petitions to sell real estate by administrator, executor, conservator, or guardian, showing term date, name of estate, description of property, notice and report of sale, and court orders. Also contains Bills and Inventories, 1870-71, 1884-1926, entry 191. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. 1870-71, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1884-1907, hdw.; 1908-26, typed. 320 - 400 p. 18 x 12 x 1½ - 18 x 12 x 2½. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

195. SALE RECORD PERSONAL PROPERTY (Public Sale), 1866--. 6 v. (2-6, 6). Title varies: Sale Record.

Lists of public sales of personal property in probated estates, showing date, names of estate and purchaser, description of property, and amount of sale. Also contains Sale Record Personal Property (Private Sale), 1866-96, entry 196. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

196. SALE RECORD PERSONAL PROPERTY (Private Sale), 1897--. 2 v. (6, 7). 1866-96 in Sale Record Personal Property (Public Sale), entry 195.

Lists of private sales of personal property in probated estates, showing name of estate, date, amount of sale, description of articles sold, and name of purchaser. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Reports, Current and
Final Accounts

197. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORT RECORD, 1870--. 11 v. (A, D, 3-11). Title varies: Report Record. 1859-69 in County Court Record (Probate), entry 181.

Administrators' reports of receipts and disbursements, showing names of estate and administrator, items and amounts of receipts and expenditures, and dates of report, court approval, and filing. Also contains administrators' accounts current, 1891--, and executors' accounts current, 1891-93; Executors' Report Record, 1870-93, entry 198; and Guardians' (and Conservators') Report Record, 1870-82, entry 199. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of estate. 1870-93, hdw.; 1894--, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

198. EXECUTORS' REPORT RECORD, 1894--. 4 v. (1-4). 1859-69 in County Court Record (Probate), entry 181; 1870-93 in Administrators' Report Record, entry 197.

Executors' reports of receipts and disbursements, showing name of estate, items and amounts of receipts and expenditures, approval of court, and date of filing; also contains executors' accounts current, 1894--. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

199. GUARDIANS' (and Conservators') REPORT RECORD, 1883--. 9 v. (A, 2-9). 1859-69 in County Court Record (Probate), entry 181; 1870-82 in Administrators' Report Record, entry 197.

Reports of guardians and conservators, showing date of report, names of estate, administrative officer, and incompetent or minor, items and amounts of receipts and disbursements, and approval of court. Also contains guardians' and conservators' current accounts, 1891--. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. 1883-94, hdw.; 1895--, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

200. ACCOUNTS CURRENT RECORD, ADMINISTRATORS AND EXECUTORS (Guardians and Conservators), 1859-90. 4 v. (1, 1, A, B). Title varies: Probate Estate Ledger.

Administrators', executors', conservators', and guardians' current accounts in probated estates, showing names of estate, administrative officer, and claimant, amounts and dates of receipts and disbursements, amounts of claims, and discharge of officer in cases of closed estates. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. 1859-65, hdw.; 1866-90, hdw. under pr. hdgs. 432 - 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl. For subsequent records, see entries 197-199.

201. INSOLVENT ESTATE RECORD, 1877-1920. 1 v. 1859-76, 1921-- in County Court Record (Probate), entry 181.

Record of administrators' reports of estates found to be insolvent, showing date of report, name of estate, amount of property, amount allowed, widow, and court orders declaring estate insolvent and discharging administrator. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. on pr. fm. 450 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Dockets

Court Proceedings

202. TRANSFER PROBATE JUDGE'S DOCKET, 1859--. 18 v. (1, A-M, 1-4). Title varies: Probate Court Docket.

Docket of cases in probate court, showing date, names of estate, probate appointee, and parties to action, abstract of proceedings, and court orders. Also contains Insanity Docket, 1859-92, entry 161, and Guardians' Docket, 1859-68, 1873--, entry 206. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 640 - 800 p. 14 x 18 x 4 - 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

203. PROBATE JUDGMENT DOCKET, 1866--. 18 v. (A, B, 1-16). Title varies: Claim Judgment Docket; Probate Judgment Docket Claims; Probate Judgment Record.

Judgment and claim docket of cases in probate court, showing number of claims, date of filing, names of claimant, estate, and judge, nature and amount of claim, and memoranda as to summonses and notices. Arr. alph. by name of person against whom judgment is entered. Indexed alph. by name of estate and claimant; for sep. index, 1872-86, see entry 204. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

204. INDEX TO JUDGMENT DOCKET, 1872-86. 2 v. (1, plaintiff; 1, defendant). Discontinued.

Index to Probate Judgment Docket, entry 203, showing names of estate and claimant, and book and page of entry in docket. Arr. alph. by names of estate and claimant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Probate Business

205. PROBATE ESTATE DOCKET, 1869-91. 2 v. (A, B). Discontinued. Probate estate docket showing names of estates, wards, insane or incompetent persons, widows, heirs, and probate appointees, dates of letters, date and amount of bonds, names of sureties, and notation of inventories, sale bills, appraisement bills, and widows' award and selection. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

206. GUARDIANS' DOCKET, 1869-72. 1 v. 1859-68, 1873-- in Transfer Probate Judge's Docket, entry 202. Docket of guardianship cases, showing names of estate, minor, and guardian, amount of bond, and dates of letters and filing. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of guardian. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Fee Books

207. PROBATE FEE BOOK, 1860--. 10 v. (1, A, C-J). Register of fees received in probate cases, showing dates and amounts of fees, and name of payee. Also contains Insane and Conservators' Fee Book, 1860-91, entry 208, and Probate Fee Book-Guardian, 1860-91, entry 209. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of principal person or subject. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

208. INSANE AND CONSERVATORS' FEE BOOK, 1892-1926. 2 v. (A, B). Title varies: Probate Fee Book, Insane. 1860-91 in Probate Fee Book, entry 207. Register of fees received in insanity cases in probate court, 1892-1911, and conservators' fees, 1894-1926, showing date, names of alleged insane or incompetent person and conservator, and amount of fees. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of alleged insane or incompetent. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.
For subsequent records, see entry 170.

209. PROBATE FEE BOOK - GUARDIAN, 1892-1917. 1 v. 1860-91 in Probate Fee Book, entry 207; 1918-- in Insanity and Miscellaneous Fee Book, entry 170. Register of fees received in guardianship, naturalization, and adoption cases, showing date, amount of fees, type of case, and name of payee. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of principal person. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Office Transactions

210. AFFIDAVIT OF NOTICE FOR CREDITORS TO APPEAR, 1866--. 3 v. (1-3). Copies of notices to creditors and claimants for presentation of claims against estates, showing date, names of estate and administrative officer, and affidavit as to posting of notices. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

VI. CIRCUIT COURT

The circuit court has original jurisdiction of all causes in law and equity and acts as a court of appeals in probate matters and causes cognizable by the county court and justices of the peace.¹ In addition, it is one of the courts capable of having naturalization jurisdiction according to Federal statutes.²

In 1849³ the circuit court judges were elected by the judicial district electorate.⁴ The Constitution of 1870 altered the circuit districts and established population requirements for counties that may comprise a circuit.⁵ From 1849 to the present, the circuit judges have been elected officers of the judicial district electorate. The sixth circuit is made up of six counties, one of which is Douglas.⁶

Three circuit judges who serve for six-year terms are elected for the district. Before entering upon the duties of his office, each circuit judge is required to subscribe to an oath which he files with the Secretary of State.⁷ The salary for those circuit court judges elected after the

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1. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 12; L.1871-72, p. 109; R.S.1874, p. 344; L.1895, p. 189; L.1933, p. 688; L.1935, p. 1.
 2. 2 U.S.Stat.L. 155; U.S.R.S.1789-1874, p. 378-80; 34 U.S.Stat.L. 596; 37 U.S.Stat.L. 709.
 3. Douglas County was created in 1859 (L.1859, p. 24,28).
 4. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 7,15.
 5. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 13.
 6. L.1933, p. 436.
 7. Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 12; L.1933, p. 436.

first Monday of June, 1933 was set at \$7,200, and for those elected after the first Monday of June, 1939 the amount was increased to \$8,000. The salaries are paid from the state treasury.¹

The hearings of several of the election contests are held before this court. Jurisdiction is granted to the court to hear and determine contests of the election of judges of the Supreme Court, judges of the circuit court, and members of the State Board of Equalization; but no judge of the circuit court is allowed to sit upon the hearing of any case in which he is a party.² The circuit court also hears and determines the election contests of some of the local and county offices. These include contests of judge of the county court, mayors of cities, president of the county board, presidents of villages, elections in reference to removal of county seats, and in reference to any other subject which may be submitted to the vote of the people of the county. The circuit court has concurrent jurisdiction with the county court in cases of contested elections under the latter's jurisdiction.³

Included under the jurisdiction of the circuit court are also appeals from the Illinois Commerce Commission's rules, regulations, orders, or decisions. Such appeals may be taken to the circuit court serving Douglas County when the subject matter of the hearing is situated in this county. The appeal may be heard for the purpose of having the reasonableness or lawfulness of the rule, regulation, order or decision inquired into and determined.⁴

To expedite the handling of litigation, a branch circuit court may be held at the same time that the main or regular circuit court for Douglas County is in session. A branch court is held by any circuit judge or by a judge of any other circuit called in for the purpose of hearing and deciding motions and settling the issues in any or all causes pending in the circuit court, and for the purpose of hearing chancery causes and cases at law which are pending in such court for that term. The presiding judge of the main circuit court assigns to the branch court as many of the law and chancery cases as the presiding judge of the branch court will possibly have time to hear.⁵

1. L.1933, p. 621; L.1937, p. 189,606. In 1835 the salary of the circuit judge was \$750 per annum (L.1835, p. 167). The Constitution of 1870 set the salary at \$3,000 until otherwise provided by law (Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 16). A few of the recent changes were: from 1919 to 1925 for judges elected during this period, \$6,500; for the period 1925 to 1933, those elected received \$8,000 per year (L.1919, p. 553,554; L.1925, p. 400; L.1931, p. 148).

2. L.1899, p. 152.

3. L.1871-72, p. 396; L.1895, p. 170.

4. L.1921, p. 742,743.

5. L.1873-74, p. 82,83; L.1905, p. 146.

Circuit Court

Also, to aid in the speedy administration of justice, the judges or a majority of them, may by an order entered of record in the office of the clerk of the circuit court, dispense with either or both the grand and petit juries for any term or part of term of the circuit court, and may designate what term or portion thereof shall be devoted to criminal business, and what term or portion thereof to civil business.¹

Each of the three judges of the circuit court is authorized to appoint one official shorthand reporter. This appointee is required to be skilled in verbatim reporting and is not allowed to hold more than one such official appointment. The appointment is in writing and is required to be filed in the office of the auditor of public accounts. The reporter holds office until his appointment is revoked by the appointing judge or until the termination of the judge's term. When the official reporter is absent or disabled, the presiding judge may appoint any other competent reporter to act during such absence or disability. The substitute is paid for his services by the official reporter. The reporter causes full stenographic notes of the evidence in all trials before the court to be taken down and transcript of the same to be correctly made if desired by either party to the suit, their attorneys, or the judge of the court. Each of the reporters receives and is paid out of the state treasury an annual salary of \$3,240. The salaries are paid out monthly on the warrant of the auditor of public accounts.²

The probation officer for adult probationers is an appointee of the circuit court.³ His services extend throughout the county. Courts exercising criminal or quasi-criminal jurisdiction are given power to release on probation adult or juvenile offenders found guilty of committing certain specified offenses.⁴ In the performance of his prescribed duties, the probation officer principally serves the county and circuit courts. He is required to give bond as determined by the circuit court in a sum not exceeding \$5,000 and is subject to the rules of and removal by the appointing court.⁵ Douglas County is allowed one probation officer under the allowance of one for each fifty thousand, or fraction thereof, of population.⁶

The probation officer is compensated at a rate determined by the county board. In the performance of his duties, he is required to investigate the cases of defendants requesting probation; notify the court of previous conviction or probation; make reports to the respective courts; keep a set of records as described below; take charge of,

1. L.1835, p. 168; L.1873-74, p. 81; L.1933, p. 441,442.

2. L.1933, p. 464.

3. L.1911, p. 280.

4. Ibid., p. 277.

5. Ibid., p. 280,281; L.1915, p. 380,381.

6. L.1915, p. 380. School census to be basis for determining population.

Circuit Court

and watch over, all persons placed on probation in his county, and all probationers moving from another county into his county. He is also required to notify probation officers in other counties of any probationers under his supervision who may move into those counties.¹

The reports made by the probation officer to the courts are kept by the clerk in the respective cases. The courts' probation records include orders granting or refusing release on probation, probationers' bonds, the reports of probation officers noted above, and discharge of probationers.

The probation officer is required to keep complete accurate records of investigated cases, including descriptions of the investigated persons, the action of the court, and the subsequent history of probationers. These are records open to inspection by any judge or by any probation officer pursuant to a court order and are not public records.²

Unlike the judges of the circuit court who are elected by the judicial district electorate, the clerk of this court is elected by the county electorate.³ This official performs the ministerial duties of the circuit court of Douglas County and files and preserves its records as well as those of the branch circuit courts.⁴ He is commissioned by the Governor and before entering upon the duties of his office, gives bond with sureties which are approved by any two of the judges of the court. His bond is given in the sum of not less than \$5,000 as agreed upon by the judges. The oath to which he subscribes is filed with the Secretary of State.⁵ If a vacancy occurs in this office and the unexpired term does not exceed one year, the court is required to fill such vacancy by appointment of a clerk pro tempore. The appointee is then required to qualify for office in the same manner as the elected clerk of the circuit court. When the appointment is made, the court notifies the Governor of the filled vacancy. The Governor in turn, as soon as practicable, issues a writ of election for the circuit court clerk.⁶

The clerk of the circuit court was first appointed by the circuit judge in Douglas County.⁷ He kept a record of all the oaths that he administered and certified a copy annually to the Secretary of State.⁸ The clerk preserved a complete record of all proceedings and determi-

1. L.1911, p. 281,282; L.1915, p. 381,382.

2. L.1911, p. 277-84; L.1915, p. 378-84.

3. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 7,21,29; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.

4. L.1905, p. 147.

5. R.S.1874, p. 260.

6. L.1873-74, p. 95.

7. Constitution of 1818, Art. IV, sec. 6; R.L.1833, p. 152; R.S.1845, p. 146.

8. L.1819, p. 349.

Circuit Court

nations of the court of which he was clerk.¹ At each term of the circuit court, the clerk inquired into the condition of the treatment of prisoners and was required to see that all prisoners were humanely treated.² This authority was in later years, and is at present, delegated to the circuit court.³ One of the early requisites of this office was for the clerk of the circuit court to reside near the county seat in order that he could attend to his duties daily. In the event that it were not possible for him to be in daily attendance, the presiding judge was to fill such vacancy.⁴ The Constitution of 1848 made the clerk of the circuit court an elective officer of the county with a four-year term. This arrangement has continued until the present.⁵

The clerk is able to perform the several duties of his office with the aid of his staff which consists of assistants and deputy clerks who are appointed by him in a number determined by rule of the circuit court.⁶ This order is entered as of record and the compensation of such assistants and deputies is set by the county board.⁷

Among the records kept by the clerk for the circuit court are the following:⁸

1. Books of record of the proceedings and judgments of the court with alphabetical indexes by parties. Proceedings are recorded at length only in cases designated by law, or when the court at the motion and assumption of expense by one of the parties, so orders. In practice, from an early date the court record has been broken down into segregated types of proceedings and judgments.
2. "Plaintiff-Defendant Index to Court Records" and "Defendant-Plaintiff Index to Court Records," intended to be separate records, but frequently combined in a single volume with the two indexes segregated in each volume.
3. A general docket in which all suits are entered in the order they are commenced.

1. R.L.1829, p. 44; R.L.1833, p. 152; R.S.1845, p. 147.

2. R.L.1827, p. 248.

3. R.S.1874, p. 616; L.1923, p. 423.

4. R.L.1829, p. 35.

5. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 29; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.

6. L.1831, p. 49; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.

7. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.

8. The Civil Practice Act of 1933 grants authority to the circuit court, subject to rules promulgated by the Supreme Court and not inconsistent with statutory requirements, to make such rules as they may deem expedient, regulating dockets and calendars of said court (L.1933, p. 786).

Circuit Court

4. A judgment and execution docket containing a column for the entry of satisfaction or other disposition. In practice, an execution docket is frequently set up independently.
5. Additional dockets, designated as the clerk's, judge's, and bar docket. In practice, the bar docket has tended to drop out of use.
6. A fee book in which costs and fees are to be entered under the proper title of the case. In practice, separate series of volumes are maintained under such titles of causes.
7. Transcripts of proceedings in appeals from justices', city, and foreign courts, dockets thereof, and transcripts of judgments for liens, etc., from the former. Separate well-bound books are required to be kept for each city court. These books are to contain an alphabetical docket of all judgment decrees rendered in the city court. They also provide for entry of data relating to the filing of the transcript with the corresponding number of the transcript.¹
8. Naturalization proceedings from petitions to final certificates; Federal statutes allow the circuit court to exercise jurisdiction.
9. Reports to the court from its designated masters in chancery, the state's attorney, and the coroner's inquest juries.
10. Jury venires, summonses, certificates, etc.
11. Original documents used in court hearings and determinations. These documents are of particular importance because in a large number of cases the complete proceedings are not spread on court record.
12. Monthly reports of the warden of the county jail, containing a list of all prisoners in his custody, showing causes of commitment and names of persons by whom committed.²

1. R.S.1874, p. 347; L.1901, p. 136,137.

2. R.L.1827, p. 217; R.S.1345, p. 323-26,414,418,419,518; L.1865, p. 79, 80; L.1871-72, p. 325; R.S.1874, p. 262,263,339,610; L.1877, p. 77; L.1895, p. 217; L.1933, p. 442,677; 2 U.S.Stat.L. 153-55; U.S.R.S. 1789-1874, p. 378-80; 34 U.S.Stat.L. 596-607,709,710; 45 U.S.Stat.L. 1514,1515.

General Index

211. INDEX TO COURT RECORDS, PLAINTIFF-DEFENDANT, 1859--. 5 v.

(1, 1, 2, plaintiff; 1, 2, defendant).

Index to (Common Law Files), entry 212; Circuit Court Records Common Law, entry 213; (Chancery Files), entry 218; Chancery Record, entry 219; (Criminal Files), entry 220; and Circuit Court Record, Criminal, entry 221, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action taken, book and page of record, and case number. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Proceedings of Court

212. (COMMON LAW FILES), 1859--. 93 f.b.

Papers in common law cases in circuit court, including attachments, writs of replevin, subpoenas, summonses, witness affidavits, pleas, jury verdicts, transcripts of judgments and evidence, fee bills, miscellaneous bonds, and court decrees. Also contains (Sheriff's Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption), 1859-71, entry 121; Confessions, 1859-60, entry 215; and Mechanics' Liens, 1859-88, entry 216. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 211. 1859-1911, hdw.; 1912--, hdw. and typed. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

213. CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS COMMON LAW, 1859--. 9 v. (1-8, 26).

Record of circuit court common law cases, showing term date, names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, court orders, and disposition of case. Also contains Circuit Court Record, Criminal, 1859-69, entry 221, including Recognizance Record, entry 224. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 211. 1859-69, hdw.; 1870-1910, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1911--, typed on pr. fm. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

214. (EXECUTIONS), 1859--. 36 f.b.

Executions on judgments, fee bills thereon, and property schedules, showing date, names of plaintiff and defendant, amounts of judgment and costs, and judgment and execution docket numbers. Arr. by date of execution. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

215. CONFESSIONS, 1861--. 8 f.b. 1859-60 in (Common Law Files), entry 212.

Original judgment notes with judgment by confession thereon, showing case number, names of plaintiff and defendant, amounts of damages, costs, and sheriff's fees, court orders, and date of filing. Arr. by case no. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

216. MECHANICS' LIENS, 1889--. 2 f.b. 1859-88 in (Common Law Files), entry 212.

Original papers filed in claims for mechanics' liens, showing date, names of parties in suit, amount of claim, and book and page of record. Arr. by case no. No index. Hdw., hdw. on pr. fm., and hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Circuit Court - Proceedings of Court

217. CONFESSION IN VACATION AND FEE BOOK, 1877--. 7 v. (9, 10, 23, 25, 27-29). Title varies: Confession Record.

Record of judgments by confession in vacation and fees thereon, showing date, names of plaintiff and defendant, and amounts of judgment and fees. Arr. by date of judgment. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

218. (CHANCERY FILES), 1859--. 195 f.b.

Papers in chancery cases, including petitions, summonses, transcripts of evidence, master's certificates and reports of sale, fee bills, miscellaneous bonds, and decrees of court. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 211. 1859-1911, hdw.; 1912--, hdw. and typed. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

219. CHANCERY RECORD, 1859--. 36 v. (1-3, 5, 6, 8, 11-19, 21-26, 29-43). Title varies: Circuit Court Record Chancery.

Record of circuit court chancery cases, showing case number, date, names of plaintiff and defendant, and court orders. Also contains reports of master in chancery. Arr. by date of entry. For index, see entry 211. 1859-1909, hdw. and hdw. on pr. fm.; 1910--, hdw., hdw. on pr. fm., and typed. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

220. (CRIMINAL FILES), 1859--. 42 f.b.

Papers in criminal cases in circuit court, including criminal capias, recognizance bonds, and forfeitures, indictments, warrants, subpoenas, summonses, pleas, transcripts of evidence, jury verdicts, fee bills, and court orders. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 211. 1859-1911, hdw.; 1912--, hdw. and typed. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

221. CIRCUIT COURT RECORD, CRIMINAL, 1870--. 6 v. (1-6). 1859-69 in Circuit Court Records Common Law, entry 213.

Record of circuit court criminal cases, showing term date, name of defendant, nature of charge, court orders, and disposition of case. Also contains Default Record, 1909--, entry 222; Indictment Record, 1870-75, 1925--, entry 223; and Recognizance Record, 1870, 1905--, entry 224. Arr. by date of entry. For index, see entry 211. 1870-1908, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1909--, typed on pr. fm. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

222. DEFAULT RECORD, 1860-1908. 3 v. (2, 7, 10). 1909-- in Circuit Court Record, Criminal, entry 221.

Record of judgments by default in term time, showing date, names of parties to suit, and amount of judgment. Arr. by date of judgment. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 564 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

223. INDICTMENT RECORD, 1876-1924. 1 v. 1870-75, 1925--, in Circuit Court Record, Criminal, entry 221.

Indictment record showing date, name of person indicted by grand jury, nature of offense, amount of bond, and names of sureties. Arr. by date of indictment. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 360 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

224. RECOGNIZANCE RECORD, 1871-1904. 2 v. (1, 2). 1859-69 in Circuit Court Records Common Law, entry 213; 1870, 1905-- in Circuit Court Record, Criminal, entry 221.

Recognizance record showing date, names of defendant, judge, state's attorney, sheriff, and sureties, nature of charge, and date and amount of bond. Arr. by date of bond. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

225. (MISCELLANEOUS FILES), 1885-1908. 1 f.b.

Bench warrants, indictments, subpoenas, criminal capias, and recognizance bonds. No obvious arr. No index. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.
For prior and subsequent papers, see entry 220.

226. FORFEITURE RECORD (Record of Forfeiture of Recognizance), 1877.
1 v. Discontinued.

Record of forfeiture of recognizance bonds, showing date, name of defendant, nature of crime, amount of bond, names of sureties, and order of forfeiture as provided by bond. Arr. by date of bond. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

For original papers, see entry 220.

Exhibits

227. ILLINOIS SCHOOL REGISTER, 1909-12. 1 v. Discontinued.

Teachers' register from an outlying school district, introduced as an exhibit of evidence in court proceedings, showing dates, names of teachers, pupils, and school, dates of school term, and monthly summary of activities. Arr. by date of school term. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 70 p. 12 x 10 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Transcripts (See also entry 167)

228. TRANSCRIPTS OF JUDGMENTS, 1886--. 5 f.b.

Original transcripts from foreign and justice courts, showing transcripts of proceedings, date, names of court, plaintiff, and defendant, and amounts of judgment, costs, and sheriff's fees. Arr. by case no. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

229. EXECUTIONS ON TRANSCRIPTS, 1886--. 2 f.b.

Original executions issued by foreign courts, showing case number, dates of executions, names of court, plaintiff, and defendant, amounts of costs and fees, and date of filing. Arr. by case no. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

230. RECORD OF TRANSCRIPTS FROM JUSTICE OF PEACE, 1859--. 4 v. (1-4).

Transcript of judgments from justice courts, showing date, names of plaintiff, defendant, and justice or police magistrate, amounts of judgment and costs, and copy of execution issued on judgment. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 588 p. 18 x 12 x 3. V. 1, 1859-77, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 2-4, 1878--., cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Dockets

231. BAR DOCKET, 1871--. 72 v. Missing: 1875-80, 1883-1902.

Bar docket of circuit court cases, showing term date, names of parties to suit, kind of action, nature of offense, and names of attorneys. Arr. by date of case. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 50 - 200 p. 8 x 6 x $\frac{1}{2}$ - 14 x 9 x 1. 2 v., 1871-82, common vlt., bsmt.; 70 v., 1903--, cir. clk.'s off., 2nd fl.

232. GENERAL DOCKET, 1874--. 4 v. (1-4).

Clerk's general docket of common law, chancery, and criminal cases in circuit court, showing date, names of parties to suit, kind of action, nature of offense, and court orders. Also contains Minute Docket Common Law, 1874-99, 1911--, entry 241; Minute Docket Chancery, 1874-99, 1908--, entry 242, and Minute Docket Criminal, 1874-99, 1908--, entry 243. Arr. by date of filing suit. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

233. TRANSFER DOCKET, 1859-68, 1911--. 12 v. (2 not numbered, 1-10). Missing: 1869, criminal and chancery entries; 1869-72, common law entries. Title varies: Judges' Docket.

Judges' transfer docket of chancery, common law, and criminal cases, showing case number, date, names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, nature of offense, court orders, and disposition of case. Contains Judges' Docket, Common Law, entry 236, including Judges' Docket, Chancery and Judges' Docket, Criminal, entries 234 and 235. Arr. by date of case. No index. Hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 500 - 2000 p. 18 x 12 x 2 - 14 x 13 x 6. 1 v. not numbered, 1859-63, common vlt., bsmt.; 1 v. not numbered, 1864-68, v. 1-10, 1911--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

234. JUDGES' DOCKET, CHANCERY, 1870-1907. 5 v. (1-5). 1859-68, 1911-- in Transfer Docket, entry 233; 1908-10 in Judges' Docket, Common Law, entry 236.

Circuit judges' docket of chancery cases, showing case number, date, names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, court orders, and final disposition of case. Arr. by date of case. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

235. JUDGES' DOCKET, CRIMINAL, 1870-1907. 3 v. (1-3). 1859-68, 1911-- in Transfer Docket, entry 233; 1908-10 in Judges' Docket, Common Law, entry 236.

Circuit judges' docket of criminal cases, showing case number, date, name of defendant, nature of charge, court orders, and disposition of case. Arr. by date of case. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

236. JUDGES' DOCKET, COMMON LAW, 1873-1910. 4 v. (4-7). 1859-68, 1911-- in Transfer Docket, entry 233.

Circuit judges' docket of common law cases, showing case number, date, names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, nature of offense, court orders, and disposition of case. Also contains Judges' Docket, Chancery and Judges' Docket, Criminal, 1908-10, entries 234 and 235. Arr. by date of case. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

237. JUDGMENT AND EXECUTION DOCKET, 1859--. 16 v. (A-D, A-L).

Docket of judgments and executions thereon, showing date, names of plaintiff and defendant, type of action, amount and nature of judgment, costs, and date of return. Judgment Docket also kept separately, 1869-76, entry 238. Arr. alph. by name of defendant. 1859-1916, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1917--, typed under pr. hdgs. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

238. JUDGMENT DOCKET, 1869-76. 1 v. 1859-- also in Judgment and Execution Docket, entry 237.

Judgment docket showing date, names of plaintiff and defendant, nature of judgment or decree, against whom entered, amounts of judgment and costs, and date of sheriff's return. Arr. alph. by name of person against whom judgment is entered. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

239. LIEN AND SATISFACTION DOCKET, 1887--. 1 v. (1).

Docket of liens, showing date, number, and amount of lien, names of person against whom lien is entered and claimant, description of property charged with lien, notation of satisfaction, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of claimant. 1887-1915, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1916--, hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

240. CHANCERY DOCKET, 1873-98. 2 v. (1, 2). Discontinued.

Docket of master's sale and redemption cases, showing date, names of claimant and defendant, kind of action, and amounts of costs and interest assessed. Arr. by date of case. Indexed alph. by name of complainant. Hdw. 400 p. 18 x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Common vlt., bsmt.

241. MINUTE DOCKET COMMON LAW, 1900-1910. 1 v. 1874-99, 1911-- in General Docket, entry 232.

Clerk's minute docket of common law cases, showing date of commencement, names of parties to suit, kind of action, and court orders. Arr. by date of case. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

242. MINUTE DOCKET CHANCERY, 1900-1907. 1 v. 1874-99, 1908-- in General Docket, entry 232.

Clerk's minute docket of chancery cases, showing date of commencement, names of parties to suit, kind of action, and court orders. Arr. by date of case. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

243. MINUTE DOCKET CRIMINAL, 1900-1907. 1 v. 1874-99, 1908-- in General Docket, entry 232.

Clerk's minute docket of criminal cases, showing date of commencement, name of defendant, nature of offense, and court orders. Arr. by date of commencement. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Fee Books

(See also entries 266, 267)

244. REGISTER OF FEES, 1872--. 6 v. (1 not lettered, B-F).

Lists of fees earned and received by circuit clerk in court cases, showing date, service performed, amount of fee, names of plaintiff, defendant, and payee, and fee book and page number. Also contains Entry Book, 1872-73, entry 100; and (Recorder's Register of Fees), entry 141. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 474 p. 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. 1 v. not lettered, v. B, 1872-87, common vlt., bsmt.; v. C-F, 1888--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

245. CRIMINAL FEE BOOK, 1859--. 11 v. (4 not numbered, 7, 13, 18, 21, 25, 28, 29). Title varies: Fee Book.

Record of fees received in criminal cases, showing date, name of defendant, nature of crime, and amount of fees. Also contains Common Law Fee Book, 1859-65, entry 247, including Transcript Fee Book, entry 249, and Fee Book Chancery, 1859-69, entry 248. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. on pr. fm. 500 p. 16 x 11 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 18 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. 4 v. not numbered, 1859-73, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 7, 13, 18, 21, 25, 28, 29, 1874--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

246. CIRCUIT COURT FEE BOOK, 1934--. 1 v. (1).

Record of fees received in common law and chancery cases in circuit court, showing date, names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, and amount of fees. Formerly kept as Common Law Fee Book, entry 247, and Fee Book Chancery, entry 248. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

247. COMMON LAW FEE BOOK, 1866-1933. 9 v. (4-6, 8, 14, 17, 19, 24, 25). 1859-65 in Criminal Fee Book, entry 245; 1934-- in Circuit Court Fee Book, entry 246.

Record of fees received in common law cases in circuit court, showing dates, names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, and amounts of fees. Also contains Transcript Fee Book, 1866-88, entry 249. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. on pr. fm. 600 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

248. FEE BOOK CHANCERY, 1870-1933. 8 v. (7, 10, 12, 16, 20, 22, 27, 28). 1859-69 in Criminal Fee Book, entry 245; 1934-- in Circuit Court Fee Book, entry 246.

Record of fees received in chancery cases in circuit court, showing date, names of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action, and amount of fees. Arr. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. on pr. fm. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

249. TRANSCRIPT FEE BOOK, 1889---. 3 v. (15-17). 1859-65 in Criminal Fee Book, entry 245; 1866-88 in Common Law Fee Book, entry 247. Record of fees received for judgments in justice of the peace courts, showing date, names of parties to suit, amount of fees, and date of payment. Arr. by date of report. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. on pr. fm. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Reports to Court
(See also entries 218, 219)

250. MASTER'S CERTIFICATES, REPORTS, AND REPORTS OF SALE, 1869---. 1 f.b.

Master's in chancery quarterly reports to circuit court of sale of property, including copies of certificates of sale, showing name of master, itemized list of property sold, amount of money collected, cost and fees, title of case, case number, and date of report. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

251. STATE'S ATTORNEY'S REPORTS, 1872---. 1 v. (1872-1909); 1 f.b. (1910---). Title varies: Record of State's Attorney Reports.

Reports of state's attorney to the circuit court, showing date, case number, names of defendants and court, nature of offense, amounts of fees, fines, and forfeitures collected, and affidavit of state's attorney as to correctness of report. Arr. by date of report. 1872-1909, no index; 1910---, indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. V. 150 p. 16 x 11 x 1; f.b. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

252. (REPORTS BY GRAND JURY), 1918---. 1 f.b.

Reports by grand jury on proposed indictments, showing date, name of defendant, alleged crime, and findings of jury. Arr. by date of report. No index. Typed. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

253. PROBATION OFFICERS' REPORT, 1936---. 1 f.b.

Original reports of probation officers to circuit court, showing name of probationer, dates of indictment and admission to probation, assessed court costs, and detailed reports on conduct of probationer. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw., and typed on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

254. CORONER'S VERDICTS, 1900-1926. 2 f.b.

Coroner's original inquest papers showing names of deceased, witnesses, and jury, cause and date of death, jury verdict, coroner's certification, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 5 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

For other inquest papers, see entries 273, 274.

Jury Records

(See also entries 2, 7, 14, 27, 148, 172)

255. (JURY VENIRES), 1903--. 1 f.b.

Lists of jurors to be drawn for service, showing term date, and names and addresses of jurors. Arr. by term date. No index. Hdw. and typed under pr. hdgs. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

256. JURY REGISTER, CIRCUIT COURT, 1862--. 3 v.

Register of jurors, showing names of jurors, days of service, mileage, amount of fees, court term, and number of case. Arr. by term date. No index. 1862-1926, hdw. on pr. fm.; 1927--, typed on pr. fm. 200 p. 16 x 10 x 1. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

257. REGISTER OF JURY CERTIFICATES, 1872--. 13 v. Missing: 1887-1907.

Stubs of jury certificates, showing name of juror, date of service, mileage, days of service, and amount of payment. Arr. by date of certificate. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 250 p. 16 x 12 x 1. 4 v., 1872-86, common vlt., bsmt.; 9 v., 1908--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Probation

258. INVESTIGATION REPORT OF THE PROBATION OFFICER, 1932--. 1 f.b.

Copies of probation officer's investigation report to circuit and county courts of defendants in criminal cases, showing date, case number, names of defendant, judge, and court, defendant's address and personal statistics, and probation officer's recommendations. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. 5 x 12 x 14. Meese residence, 310 E. Houghton St., 1st fl.

259. PROBATIONER'S MONTHLY REPORT, 1932--. 1 f.b.

Monthly reports of probationer to probation officer, showing date of report, name of probationer, monthly earnings, itemized expenditures, and payments made on judgment, fines, or costs. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. 5 x 12 x 14. Meese residence, 310 E. Houghton St., 1st fl.

260. RECORD OF PROBATION CASES, 1913--. 1 v. Missing: 1919-32.

Reports of probationer to probation officer, showing name and residence of probationer, date and term of probation, date of report, and date of discharge. Arr. by date of report. Indexed alph. by name of probationer. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 460 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Meese residence, 310 E. Houghton St., 1st fl.

261. PRIVATE RECORD OF PROBATIONER, 1913--. 1 v. Missing: 1913-32.

Register of criminals admitted to probation, showing date, name, residence, and description of defendant, names of parents, term of probation, and date of discharge. Arr. by date of probation. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Meese residence, 310 E. Houghton St., 1st fl.

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Naturalization
(See also entries 176-178)

262. NATURALIZATION RECORD, 1860-1930. 2 v. (1, 1). Subsequent records kept in the United States District Court, Danville, Illinois. Naturalization record, including petitions, oaths, and final certificates, showing date, alien's name, residence, age, and nativity, length of time in the United States, names of witnesses, and court order granting citizenship. Also contains Record of Declaration of Intention, 1860-1907, entry 263, and Naturalization Record, Soldiers and Minors, 1877-1930, entry 264. Arr. by date of petition. Indexed alph. by name of alien. Hdw. on pr. fm. 350 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.
263. RECORD OF DECLARATION OF INTENTION, 1908-30. 2 v. 1860-1907 in Naturalization Record, entry 262. Subsequent records kept in the United States District Court, Danville, Illinois. Copies of affidavits or affirmations of aliens of intention to become naturalized, showing alien's name, age, occupation, color, and place of birth, and date of arrival in the United States. Arr. by date of filing. Indexed alph. by name of alien. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 p. 14 x 9 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.
264. NATURALIZATION RECORD, SOLDIERS AND MINORS, 1865-76. 1 v. 1877-1930 in Naturalization Record, entry 262. Subsequent records kept in the United States District Court, Danville, Illinois. Record of declarations, petitions, oaths, and final papers for naturalization of alien discharged soldiers and minors, showing date, name, age, residence, and nativity of alien, service record of soldier, length of time in the United States, names of witnesses, and court order granting citizenship. Arr. by date of naturalization. Indexed alph. by name of alien. Hdw. on pr. fm. 350 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.
265. CERTIFICATES OF NATURALIZATION (Stubs), 1904-30. 3 v. Subsequent records kept in the United States District Court, Danville, Illinois. Stub record of naturalization certificates issued, showing certificate number, names and ages of alien, wife, and minor children, date of court order, and signature of alien. Arr. by date of certificate. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 40 p. 9 x 14 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Office Transactions

Receipts and Expenditures

266. CASH BOOK, 1887--. 13 v. (10 not numbered, 1-3). Ledger of receipts and disbursements of circuit clerk, showing date, title of cause, names of payee and payer, and fee book and page of entry. Arr. by date of entry. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 160 p. 12 x 13 x 1. 10 v. not numbered, 1887-1926, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 1-3, 1927--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Court Business

267. WITNESS AFFIDAVITS (Witness Fee Register), 1872--. 6 v. Register of witnesses and fees, showing dates, names of plaintiff, defendant, and witnesses, number of days in court, mileage, and amount of fee. Arr. by date of registration. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 14 x 9 x 3. 3 v., 1872-99, common vlt., bsmt.; 3 v., 1900--, cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

VII. SHERIFF

The sheriff, by constitutional provision, has been an elected officer in Douglas County from the organization of the county, in 1859, to the present.¹ The term of his office, originally set at two years,² is now four years.³ In 1880 it was provided, by constitutional amendment, that no person elected to the office of sheriff should be eligible for reelection to that office until four years after the expiration of his term of office.⁴ His bond in this county is required in the sum of \$10,000 and must be approved by the county judge.⁵ Memoranda of this bond are entered at large upon the records of the county court, and the bond is filed in the office of the county clerk.⁶ One or more deputies are appointed by the sheriff in accordance with the number allowed by rule of the circuit court. Compensation of the deputies is determined by the county board.⁷ The sheriff is warden of the county jail and has custody and regulation of the same and of all prisoners.⁸ To assist him in this administration, he appoints a superintendent of the county jail

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1. Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 7; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; second amendment November 22, 1880, to the Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8; also L.1819, p. 110; R.S.1874, p. 989.
 2. Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; Constitution of 1848, Art. VII, sec. 7.
 3. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
 4. Ibid., Art. X, sec. 8, as amended November, 1880.
 5. R.S.1874, p. 990. Cf. R.L.1827, p. 371. Prior to the organization of the county court, the sheriff's bond and securities were approved by the circuit court.
 6. R.S.1845, p. 514; R.S.1874, p. 989.
 7. R.L.1827, p. 373; R.S.1845, p. 515; L.1869, p. 399; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 9.
 8. L.1819, p. 111, 112, 160-62, 314-17, 332, 333; L.1821, p. 37, 63, 64; R.L.1827, p. 247-50; L.1831, p. 103, 104, 106; R.L.1833, p. 574, 575; L.1845, p. 10, 19; R.S.1845, p. 133, 134, 515-17; R.S.1874, p. 616, 989-91; L.1901, p. 137, 138; L.1923, p. 423. The citations also include references to duties not included in the general outline noted above.

for whose conduct he is responsible, and whom he may remove at pleasure.¹

Essentially without change for over one hundred years, the principal duties of the sheriff are the following:

1. To act as conservator of the peace, with power to arrest offenders on view.²
2. To attend, in person or by deputy, all courts of record (city, county, probate, circuit, and appellate courts) in his county, and to obey the orders and directions of the courts.³
3. To serve, execute, and return all writs, warrants, process, orders, and decrees legally directed to him.⁴
4. To sell real or personal property by virtue of execution or other process.⁵
5. To send fingerprints of criminals to the State Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation.⁶

In the course of the sheriff's many detailed duties included in these broad provisions, the following records may be kept but do not appear in Douglas County:

1. Receipts of deliveries of prisoners in changes of venue.⁷
2. Copies of reports to the county court and circuit court.⁸
3. Reports of pawnbrokers on loans and articles pawned.⁹

The following records may be kept and do appear:

1. Register of prisoners.¹⁰
2. "Book of Accounts," including records of fees and disbursements.¹¹
3. Docket of process.
4. Docket of executions.

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1. L.1923, p. 423.
 2. R.L.1827, p. 372; R.S.1845, p. 515; R.S.1874, p. 990.
 3. Ibid.
 4. Ibid.
 5. R.L.1827, p. 334; L.1838-39, p. 14-18,20; R.S.1845, p. 302,306,307; L.1871-72, p. 505; R.S.1874, p. 622,623,627-29.
 6. L.1931, p. 465.
 7. R.S.1874, p. 1096.
 8. Ibid., p. 617; L.1923, p. 424; L.1933, p. 678.
 9. L.1909, p. 301.
 10. R.S.1874, p. 617; L.1923, p. 424.
 11. L.1871-72, p. 450,451; L.1873-74, p. 104,105.

Sheriff - Process;
Jail Records; Fees

Process

268. SHERIFF'S PROCESS DOCKET, 1867--. 14 v. (6 not numbered, 2, 3, 3-5, 3 not numbered).

Sheriff's docket of process issued by circuit and county courts, showing names of parties to suit, type of writ, dates of receipt and return, amount of fees, and sheriff's return. Arr. by date of entry. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 440 p. 16 x 11 x 2. 6 v. not numbered, v. 2, 3, 3, 1867-1906, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 4, 5, 3 not numbered, 1907--, sh.'s off., 2nd fl.

269. SHERIFF'S EXECUTION DOCKET, 1867--. 9 v. (3 not numbered, 1, 5 not numbered).

Docket of sheriff's executions, showing case number, names of parties to suit, date and amount of judgment, against whom entered, amounts of interest and costs, total, and date of sheriff's return. Arr. by date of judgment. Indexed alph. by name of plaintiff. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 600 p. 16 x 11 x 2. 3 v. not numbered, v. 1, 1867-93, common vlt., bsmt.; 5 v. not numbered, 1894--, sh.'s off., 2nd fl.

270. SHERIFF'S DOCKET, 1872-74. 1 v.

Sheriff's docket of court cases, showing term date, names of parties to suit, kind of action, and amount of sheriff's fees. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 640 p. 16 x 11 x 3. Common vlt., bsmt.

Jail Records

271. JAIL REGISTER, 1886--. 4 v. (1-4).

Register of prisoners in county jail, showing prisoner's name, age, and personal description, nature of charge, name of officer delivering prisoner, date of commitment, items of personal effects, and date of discharge. Arr. by date of commitment. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 - 300 p. 13 x 9 x 1 - 18 x 12 x 2. V. 1-3, 1886-1932, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 4, 1933--, sh.'s off., 2nd fl.

Fees

272. REGISTER OF FEES, 1872--. 4 v. (3 not numbered, 1). Title varies: Receipts and Expenditures.

Sheriff's register of fees, showing date, receipts from fines and court costs, and name of payer. Title variation is misnomer; sheriff keeps no official record of expenditures. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 18 x 12 x 2. 1 v. not numbered, 1872-90, common vlt., bsmt.; 2 v. not numbered, v. 1, 1891--, sh.'s off., 2nd fl.

VIII. CORONER

The coroner's office in Douglas County has continued in existence from the organization of the county, in 1859, to the present.¹ The coroner is elected by the county electorate for a four-year term. After certification of his election by the county clerk, filing of his bond, and taking oath of office,² he receives his commission from the Governor. The coroner's bond in this county is required in the sum of \$5,000 and must be approved by the county judge.³ The inquest duties of this official have changed little over a period of more than a century. The coroner acts as a conservator of the peace with powers equal to those of sheriff in this respect and serves as a ministerial officer of the courts in the absence or disqualification of the sheriff; he also performs all the other duties of the latter when the office is vacant.⁴

The most important function of the coroner is to hold inquests over the bodies of persons supposed to have come to their death by violence, casualty, or other undue means. When notification of such death is received, the coroner proceeds to the body, takes charge of it, and summons a jury composed of six men from the vicinity in which the body was found. The jury is instructed to assemble at a stated time and place, to view the body and to inquire into the cause and manner of the death. If the inquest is continued and a vacancy should occur on the jury, the coroner is allowed to fill such vacancy.⁵

To the custody of the clerk of the circuit court are returned the verdict of the jury, and such recognizances as may be given the coroner by witnesses whose testimony implicates any person as the unlawful slayer of the deceased.⁶ In his own office, the coroner files and preserves the record of such testimony.⁷ The coroner also keeps one record which he originates, the "inquest record." This record recapitulates all the data involved in the entire inquest procedure and includes an inventory and accounting of the personal property and money of the deceased.⁸

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1. L.1849, Second Sess., p. 7; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.
 2. The office is constitutional and elective (Constitution of 1818, Art. III, sec. 11; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8). The term, formerly two years, is now four years (second amendment, November 22, 1880, to Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8).
 3. R.S.1874, p. 281.
 4. R.S.1845, p. 515,517; R.S.1874, p. 281,282.
 5. R.S.1845, p. 517,518; R.S.1874, p. 282-84; L.1879, p. 82; L.1907 p. 213; L.1919, p. 403; L.1931, p. 388.
 6. R.S.1845, p. 518; R.S.1874, p. 284.
 7. L.1869, p. 104; R.S.1874, p. 283; L.1907, p. 213; L.1919, p. 293.
 8. L.1821, p. 25,26; R.S.1874, p. 283.

Deputy coroners appointed by this official assist him in the performance of the duties of his office. The number of deputies is set by rule of the circuit court, and their compensation is determined by the county board of supervisors. The bond or securities of these assistants are taken by the coroner, and the oath to which each subscribes is filed in the county clerk's office.¹

For coroner's reports to circuit court, see entry 254.

273. CORONER'S RECORD (Docket), 1869--. 2 v. Missing: 1874-1900. Coroner's inquest docket showing dates, names of deceased, jurors, and witnesses, residence, occupation, and personal description of deceased, and inventory and disposition of personal effects. Also contains (Coroner's Inquest Papers), 1869-73, 1923--, entry 274. Arr. by date of inquest. Indexed alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 180 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. 1 v., 1869-73, cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.; 1 v., 1901--, cor.'s off., Newman, Illinois.

274. (CORONER'S INQUEST PAPERS), 1901-22. 2 f.b. 1869-73, 1923-- pasted in Coroner's Record (Docket), entry 273. Original papers in coroner's inquests, including witness subpoenas, jury venires, testimony of witnesses, verdict of jury, and jury certificates. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 4 1/2 x 13. Cir. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

IX. STATE'S ATTORNEY

In Douglas County, since its organization in 1859, the state's attorney has commenced and prosecuted in courts of record all actions in which the people of the state or county were concerned.² The Constitution of 1848 made the state's attorney an elective officer of the circuit district electorate. His services were expanded to include the newly created county court. Finally, the present constitution made the office elective in and for each county.³ Bond in the sum of \$5,000 has been required since 1872.⁴ From the creation of this office in the state until the present, the state's attorney has continued to receive his commission

1. L.1881, p. 63.

2. R.L.1827, p. 79,80; L.1835, p. 44; R.S.1845, p. 76; R.S.1874, p. 173,174.

3. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21,28; Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22; R.S.1874, p. 172.

4. L.1871-72, p. 189.

from the Governor for the tenure of his office.¹ In 1849, the state's attorney's office became elective by the district electorate for a four-year term, the first term, however, being only for three years and ending in 1852.² In Douglas County the state's attorney receives an annual salary of \$2,250, with an additional \$400 paid by the state. Statutory fee rates are allowed him for convictions on specified offenses and crimes before justices of the peace, police magistrates, county and circuit courts. Also, rates are established for preliminary examinations of defendants, for attendance at trials, and for appeals. These several fees and rates make up a county fund from which is paid his salary.³

The duties of the state's attorney are the following:

1. To commence and prosecute all actions, suits, indictments, and prosecutions, civil or criminal, in any court of record in his county in which the people of the state or county may be concerned.
2. To prosecute all forfeited bonds and recognizances and all actions and proceedings for the recovery of debts, revenues, moneys, fines, penalties, and forfeitures accruing to the state or his county, or to any school district in his county; also to prosecute all suits in his county against railroads or transportation companies, which may be prosecuted in the name of the people of the State of Illinois.
3. To commence and prosecute all actions and proceedings brought up by any county officer in his official capacity.
4. To defend all actions and proceedings brought against his county or against any county or state officer, in his official capacity, in his county.
5. To attend the examination of all persons brought before any judge on habeas corpus when the prosecution is in his county.
6. To attend before justices of the peace and prosecute charges of felony or misdemeanor for which the offender is required to be recognized and to appear before a court when it is within his power to do so.

1. R.L.1833, p. 98; L.1835, p. 44; Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 28; Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22; R.S.1874, p. 172.
2. Constitution of 1848, Art. V, sec. 21; Constitution of 1870, Art. VI, sec. 22.
3. L.1871-72, p. 422; L.1873-74, p. 104,105; L.1909, p. 231-33; L.1929, p. 474-76; L.1937, p. 607.

7. To give his opinion without fee or reward, to any county officer or justice of the peace in his county upon any question of law relating to any criminal or other matter in which the people of the state or county may be concerned.
8. To assist the attorney general whenever it may be necessary, and in cases of appeal or writ of error from his county to the Supreme Court, to which it is the duty of the attorney general to attend, he shall, a reasonable time before the trial of such appeal or writ of error, furnish the attorney general with a brief, showing the nature of the case and the questions involved.
9. To pay all moneys received by him in trust, without delay, to the officer who by law is entitled to their custody.
10. To perform such other and further duties as may from time to time be enjoined upon him by law.
11. To appear in all proceedings by collectors of taxes against delinquent taxpayers for judgment to sell real estate, and to see that all the necessary preliminary steps have been legally taken to make the judgment legal and binding.¹
12. To enforce the collection of all fines, forfeitures, and penalties imposed or incurred in the courts of record in his county; and to report to the circuit court on the collection of these moneys.²

For state's attorney's reports to circuit court, see entry 251.

275. STATE'S ATTORNEY'S DOCKET, 1932--. 1 v.

State's attorney's docket showing date of information, names of defendant and witnesses, nature of offense, court of trial, court orders, and dates of commitment, acquittal, or probation. Arr. by date of information. Indexed alph. by name of defendant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 292 p. 13 x 11 x 2. State's atty.'s off., 132-134 West Sale St., 1st fl.

1. R.S.1845, p. 76; R.S.1874, p. 172-74.

2. L.1909, p. 406; L.1911-12, p. 88; L.1929, p. 475.

X. SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSMENTS

The county supervisor of assessments, with the aid of the township assessors in Douglas County, is responsible for the assessment of property upon which the township, district, county, state, and other taxes are levied. Principally, these officers annually revise the assessment of property, correct the same upon complaint, and quadrennially assess real and personal property.¹ Many statutory provisions have regulated this function in Douglas County. Early laws fixed the value of the several categories of real and personal property, leaving to the assessing officer only limited discretion.²

Property assessments in Douglas County were first made by the county treasurer,³ who continued to act in this capacity until 1868 when township organization was instituted in this county,⁴ and assessments were made by township assessors, elected one in each township annually.⁵

Between 1859 and 1898, the assessing officers in Douglas County received their assessment lists from, and reported assessments to, the county clerk.⁶ In the latter year, the legislature provided that the county treasurer should be ex-officio supervisor of assessments.⁷ From that date until the present, the township assessors have worked under the direction of, and reported the assessment of property to, the county treasurer, acting in this ex-officio capacity. Every assessor is bonded in the sum of \$500. Bond for the supervisor of assessments is \$2,000 or such larger sum as the county board may determine.⁸

For other taxation records, see entries 1, 2, 23-52, 98[ii, iv], 111, 121-124, 277-285.

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1. L.1871-72, p. 20-22; L.1879, p. 243; L.1881, n. 134; L.1891, p. 37; L.1898, p. 37,40,44; L.1903, p. 295,296; L.1923, p. 491,492,504,505; L.1927, p. 713,714; L.1928, Sp. Sess., p. 106; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 66.
 2. L.1819, p. 313-19; L.1825, p. 173; L.1839, p. 4-6; L.1840, p. 4; L.1845, p. 6.
 3. L.1849, p. 127; L.1853, p. 46.
 4. Douglas County adopted township organization in 1867, but the change was not effective until 1868.
 5. L.1851, p. 38,54-57; L.1853, p. 14,15; L.1855, p. 35.
 6. L.1849, p. 121,128; L.1849, Second Sess., p. 38; L.1853, p. 14,17,47, 49,50; L.1871-72, p. 19,20,22,23.
 7. L.1898, p. 36,37.
 8. Ibid., p. 37-39; L.1923, p. 493,494; L.1927, p. 743,744; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 66.

276. PERSONAL PROPERTY SCHEDULES, 1931--. 96 f.b.

Tax schedules of all personal property, showing date, value and location of property, and owner's name. Arr. alph. by name of twp. and owner. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

XI. BOARD OF REVIEW

An important aspect of the revenue procedure is the authority, exercised by the board of review, to assess, equalize, and review or revise the assessment of property.¹ Early legislation provided for appeals from assessments to the county court. The court was empowered to review and revise assessments on real and personal property.²

In 1868³ when township organization was instituted appeals were made to the town board composed of the township supervisor, clerk, and assessor.⁴ The board of supervisors in their annual meeting examined the assessment rolls in the several towns to ascertain whether the valuations in one town bore just relation to the valuations in all other towns in the county, and were empowered to increase or diminish the aggregate valuation of real estate in any town accordingly. They could make whatever alterations in the description of the lands of nonresidents they deemed necessary, and were required to assess the value of any lands omitted by the assessor.⁵ In 1872 the duties of the board of supervisors with regard to assessments were the following:

1. To assess omitted property.
2. To review assessments upon complaint.
3. To hear and determine the application of any person assessed on property claimed to be exempt from taxation.
4. To ascertain whether the valuation in one town or district bore just relation to the valuation in all towns or districts in the county and adjust the assessment.⁶

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1. L.1898, p. 46-49; L.1915, p. 566-70; L.1919, p. 727; L.1923, p. 496-502; L.1930, Sp. Sess., p. 35-90; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 70, 71, 75-78; L.1935, p. 1163-66.
 2. L.1849, p. 65.
 3. Douglas County adopted township organization in 1867, but the change was not effective until 1868.
 4. L.1851, p. 56; L.1871-72, p. 21, 22, 24, 25.
 5. L.1851, p. 57, 58; L.1871-72, p. 24, 25.
 6. L.1871-72, p. 24, 25.

In 1898 this authority was transferred to the newly created board of review, composed of the chairman of the county board who became ex-officio chairman of the board of review, the county clerk, and one citizen appointed by the county judge.¹ Since 1923 the board has consisted of the chairman of the county board as ex-officio chairman of the board of review, and two citizens appointed by the county judge. The members of the board select their own clerk. The two citizen members are appointed alternately for a two-year term.²

Today, the board of review in Douglas County is required to assess taxable property omitted from the regular assessment, to review and correct assessments on property claimed to be incorrectly assessed, to increase or reduce the entire assessment if, in their opinion, it has not been made upon the proper basis, to hear and determine the application of any person assessed on property claimed to be exempt from taxation, and to correct errors or mistakes, except errors of judgment, as to the valuation of any property, any time before judgment.³

For other taxation records, see entries, 1, 2, 28-52, 98[ii,iv], 111, 121-124, 276, 280-285.

277. BOARD OF REVIEW (Record), 1899--. 2 v. (1, 2).

Record of proceedings of board of review, showing date of meeting, notice to property owners to appear before the board, and action taken on complaints against taxes. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 640 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

278. BOARD OF REVIEW DOCKET, 1937--. 1 v. (1).

Docket of cases heard before board of review, showing date of hearing, name of owner or agent of property in question, location and description of property, and assessment as fixed by the board. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of owner. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

279. COMPLAINT DOCKET (Board of Review), 1899. 1 v. Discontinued.

Docket of complaints against taxes, showing number and date of complaint, name of complainant, location and description of property, assessed valuation, and findings and orders of the board. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of complainant. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

1. L.1898, p. 46.

2. L.1923, p. 496,497; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 71,72.

3. L.1898, p. 46-49; L.1915, p. 566-70; L.1919, p. 727; L.1923, p. 496-502; L.1930, Sp. Sess., p. 85-90; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 70,71, 75-78; L.1935, p. 1163-66.

XII. COLLECTOR

Tax collections in Douglas County were first made by the sheriff acting as ex-officio county collector.¹ The sheriff continued to act in this capacity until 1868; in that year township organization was instituted in this county,² and tax collections became the joint responsibility of the townships and the county, with the county treasurer acting as ex-officio county collector.³

Under this plan, town collectors, elected one in each township,⁴ made collections of resident property taxes,⁵ while nonresident and delinquent taxes were collected by the county treasurer.⁶ By the terms of an act of 1855, the town collectors were required to return their tax lists or books to the county collector who delivered them to the county clerk.⁷ This provision was changed in 1872 by an act of the General Assembly which provided that the county collector should make an annual sworn statement to the county clerk, showing the total amount of each kind of tax collected, the amount received from each town collector, and the amount collected by himself.⁸

The collection procedure in Douglas County was altered in 1917 when the legislature provided for the abolishment of the office of town collector in counties with fewer than one hundred thousand inhabitants, the county collector to be ex-officio town collector in such counties.⁹ As Douglas County never attained this population minimum,¹⁰ the county collector has continued to make collections for the townships as well as for the county.¹¹

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1. L.1853, p. 99.
 2. Douglas County adopted township organization in 1867, but the change was not effective until 1868.
 3. L.1851, p. 38,59-64; L.1853, p. 67.
 4. L.1851, p. 38.
 5. *Ibid.*, p. 59.
 6. *Ibid.*, p. 53.
 7. L.1855, p. 37.
 8. L.1871-72, p. 56,57; L.1873-74, p. 56; L.1930, Sp. Sess., p. 66,67; L.1931, p. 756; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 112; L.1933, p. 873, 921; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 220; L.1935, p. 1156,1213; L.1935-36, Fourth Sp. Sess., p. 69,70.
 9. L.1917, p. 793.
 10. The population of Douglas County was 19,591 in 1910; 19,604 in 1920; and 17,914 in 1930 (Population Bulletin, Illinois, U.S. Census 1930, p. 16).
 11. L.1925, p. 605; L.1929, p. 774,775; L.1931, p. 905-8; L.1933, p. 1115, 1116.

The county collector is bonded in an amount determined upon by the county board in addition to that bond required of him as county treasurer.¹ Under statutory provisions, he collects taxes for the state, county, and other governmental agencies, and pays to the proper authorities the amount in his hands payable to them.² He also settles annually with the county board.³ He prepares an annual list of delinquent property and files it with the county clerk,⁴ advertises his intention of applying for judgment for sale of delinquent lands and lots,⁵ and is required to attend, in person or by deputy, all tax sales resulting from this action.⁶ The county clerk, in person or by deputy, is also required to attend all tax sales.⁷ At such sales, the clerk and collector note and make entry of all tax sales and forfeitures to the state.⁸

The county collector is required to keep his records as collector of taxes separate from his records as county treasurer.⁹ The records of the collector's office include duplicates of receipts issued to taxpayers, state auditor's and county clerk's certification of the collector's settlement with them, duplicates of the collector's reports, delinquent property records, and tax sale and forfeiture records.

For other taxation records, see entries 1, 2, 28-52, 98[ii, iv], 111, 121-124, 276-279, 285.

Collection, Settlement

280. TAX RECEIPTS (Land and Lots, all townships), 1930--. 70 bdl. Duplicate receipts for first and second installments of tax collections on lands and lots, showing date, name of taxpayer, legal description of property, amounts of taxes, assessed valuation, and total tax, interest, and costs. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 7 x 8 x 4. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

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1. L.1871-72, p. 36; L.1931, p. 748; L.1931-32, First Sp. Sess., p. 85, 86; L.1933-34, Third Sp. Sess., p. 225, 226.
 2. L.1871-72, p. 56-59; L.1933, p. 922; L.1935, p. 1156, 1213; L.1935-36, Fourth Sp. Sess., p. 69, 70.
 3. L.1871-72, p. 55; L.1935, p. 1155, 1156.
 4. L.1898, p. 51; L.1931, p. 759.
 5. L.1871-72, p. 44; L.1937, p. 1010.
 6. L.1871-72, p. 48; L.1930, First Sp. Sess., p. 64.
 7. L.1871-72, p. 48.
 8. Ibid.; L.1933, p. 886.
 9. L.1917, p. 664, 665; L.1930, First Sp. Sess., p. 60-62; L.1935, p. 1149-58.

281. TAX RECEIPTS (Personal Property, all townships), 1930--.
10 cardboard boxes.

Duplicate personal property tax receipts showing date, description of property, amount of tax, and name of payer. Arr. alph. by name of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 4 x 11 x 13. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

282. REDEMPTION OF LANDS FORFEITED TO STATE, 1933--. 2 f.b.
County clerk's orders to county collector to receive redemption money, showing date, legal description of property, amounts of taxes and costs, and name of redeemer. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 8 x 9 x 18. 1 f.b., 1933, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.; 1 f.b., 1934--, treas.'s off., 2nd fl.

283. SETTLEMENT WITH TOWN OFFICERS, 1867--. 18 v. (5 not numbered, 1-13). Title varies: Treasurer's Settlement; Collector's Account with Treasurer.

County collector's statement of account with township officers of tax collections, showing date, amounts paid and outstanding, delinquencies and forfeitures, and total collections. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of twp. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 - 640 p. 14 x 9 x 1 - 18 x 12 x 3. 5 v. not numbered, v. 1-4, 1867-1906, common vlt., bsmt.; v. 5-13, 1907--, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Delinquent Tax, Abatement

284. ABATEMENT RECORD, 1887--. 5 v. (1, 4 not numbered).

Lists of tax abatements, showing date, name of taxpayer, description of property, and amounts of delinquent tax, assessment, and abatement; also contains record of errors and insolvencies, showing date, legal description of lands and lots listed for correction of taxes, name of owner or insolvent estate, description of property and amount of taxes assessed. Arr. chron. Indexed by name of twp. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 - 480 p. 14 x 9 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 18 x 16 x 3. V. 1, 1887-97, common vlt., bsmt.; 4 v. not numbered, 1898--, treas.'s off., 2nd fl.

XIII. TREASURER

In Douglas County the treasurer has been elected by the people of the county since 1859;¹ and is commissioned by the Governor for a four-

1. L.1851, p. 144; Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8.

year term.¹ In 1880, by amendment to the Constitution of 1870, it was provided that no treasurer be eligible for reelection to the office until four years after the expiration of his term of office.² The penal sum of the treasurer's bond and his securities are determined by the county board.³ Upon request of the treasurer, the board designates the bank in which the public funds are to be deposited.

In the performance of his duties, the treasurer receives the county revenue, has custody of its funds, and disburses them in accordance with orders of the county board or specific authorization by law. He is required to keep books of accounts of all funds received and disbursed by him, to maintain a register of county orders countersigned and paid, to report annually to the county board on the financial transactions of his office, and to settle his accounts with the board semiannually.⁴ The last two requirements give rise to a number of segregated records of accounts beyond strict statutory requirements. In addition, reports are made to the treasurer by other county, district, public, and semi-public authorities in the process of transacting business with him; and, finally, a large number of records arise from the requirement for collectors of taxes to settle their accounts with the treasurer.⁵

The treasurer acts as ex-officio treasurer of the special drainage district.⁶

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1. The term was set at two years (L.1845, p. 28; L.1851, p. 144). The office was made constitutional in 1870 without change of term (Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8). Then in 1880, the term was lengthened to four years (Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8, as amended November, 1880).
 2. Constitution of 1870, Art. X, sec. 8, as amended November, 1880.
 3. R.L.1827, p. 329; R.S.1874, p. 323. The bond is required to be filed in the office of the county clerk.
 4. R.S.1845, p. 137-39; L.1861, p. 239,240; R.S.1874, p. 323,324.
 5. L.1845, p. 11; L.1895, p. 304; L.1913, p. 516; L.1933, p. 898.
 6. L.1885, p. 78,104.

General Accounts

Registers and Ledgers

285. COUNTY TREASURER'S BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION LEDGER, 1862---. 12 v. (8 not numbered, 1, 3 not numbered). Title varies: Miscellaneous Fund and Fee Book; Collector's and Treasurer's Account General Fund; Journal.

Ledger of receipts and expenditures of mothers' pension, tuberculosis, highway, non-high school, institute, dog tax, trust, inheritance tax, and general county funds, including taxes, fees, salaries, and miscellaneous receipts and expenditures, showing date, amount, from whom received or to whom paid, reason for payment, fund debited or credited, and balance available. Also contains Register of County Orders Countersigned, 1934---, entry 288. Arr. alph. by name of fund. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 640 - 1000 p. 18 x 12 x 3 - 16 x 12 x 4. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

286. ACCOUNT BOOK BIRTHS AND DEATHS, 1902-3. 1 v.

County treasurer's account with town, city, or village clerks, and coroners, physicians, and midwives for birth and death reports, showing date of county clerk's certification, number of births and deaths reported, amount of fee, name and address of person making report, and date of receipt of report. Arr. by date of report. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 480 p. 15 x 11 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. Common vlt., bsmt.

For subsequent records, see entry 95.

287. DAILY BALANCES, 1932---. 3 f.b.

Balance sheets made daily by treasurer, showing date, amount of tax collections from townships, amount due, and grand total. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 4 x 14 x 14. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

County Orders (See
also entries 7-14, 322)

288. REGISTER OF COUNTY ORDERS COUNTERSIGNED, 1866-1933. 7 v. (A-G). Title varies: Register of County Warrants Countersigned. 1934--- in County Treasurer's Budget and Appropriation Ledger, entry 285.

Treasurer's register of countersigned county orders, showing date, order number, name of payee, and amount of payment. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 16 x 11 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. V. A-C, 1866-1914, common vlt., bsmt.; v. D-G, 1915-33, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

289. REGISTER OF COUNTY ORDERS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT, 1865-74. 1 v. Discontinued.

Register of paid county orders, showing order number, date, name of payee, and amount of payment. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 400 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Common vlt., bsmt.

Special Accounts

Probate

290. MINORS AND UNKNOWN HEIRS, 1894--. 1 v. (1).

Register of funds held in trust for minors and unknown heirs, showing names of estate and unknown heirs or minors, amount of fund, name of payee, and date of payment. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 10 x 12 x 2. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Inheritance Tax

291. INHERITANCE TAX RECORD, 1907--. 2 v. (1, 2).

Cash accounts of inheritance taxes, showing date of death, name of estate, appraised and cash valuations, tax rate, amounts of tax, discount, and interest, names and relationship of heirs, amount collected from each heir or legatee, fees and commissions, amount transmitted to state treasurer, and notation of auditor's receipt. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of estate. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 360 p. 16 x 12 x 2. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

292. (INHERITANCE TAX PAPERS), 1919--. 1 f.b.

Documents in inheritance tax cases, including receipts for fees collected or paid by county treasurer, showing dates, court orders approving report of appraisers, and amount of tax. Arr. by date of case. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Highway (See also
entries 7, 325)

293. MOTOR FUEL TAX ALLOTMENT RECORD, 1931--. 1 v.

Register of motor fuel tax allotments, showing date, claim number, names of payee, receipts and disbursements, and balance available. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 340 p. 8 x 12 x 2. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Dog License (See
also entries 80, 285)

294. CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES FOR ANIMALS KILLED BY DOGS, 1921--. 1 f.b.

Affidavits by owners of animals killed or damaged by dogs, showing date, name of owner or claimant, number and kind of animals killed, amounts of damages claimed and sustained, together with receipt for payment and appraiser's report. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

295. DOG LICENSE FUND RECORD (and Sheep Claims Paid), 1920--. 1 v.

(1). 1893-1919 in Supervisors' Record, entry 2.

Register of dog license fund, showing amounts received, date, names of assessor and township, amounts paid for sheep killed or damaged by dogs, name of payee, signature of authorizing supervisor, and balance. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 320 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Reports

296. (JUSTICE OF THE PEACE REPORT OF FINES), 1915--. 1 f.b.

Reports of fines collected by justices of the peace, showing date, names of defendant and justice of the peace, charge, amount of fine, and notation as to whether paid by cash or road labor. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

For prior reports, see entry 171.

Bonds

(See also entries 91, 131)

297. COLLECTOR'S SATISFACTION, 1869-71. 1 v. Discontinued.

Record of releases by county treasurer of township collectors' bonds, showing date, names of bonded official and sureties, terms and amount of bond, and date of release. Arr. by date of release. Indexed alph. by name of bonded official. Hdw. on pr. fm. 280 p. 18 x 12 x 2. Common vlt., bsmt.

Cancelled Checks and Deposit Slips

298. (CANCELLED CHECKS AND DEPOSIT SLIPS), 1934--. 4 pigeon holes.

Cancelled checks and deposit slips, showing date, amount of check or deposit, and name of bank. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 5 x 5 x 13. Treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

XIV. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The first school official in Douglas County was the county school commissioner.¹ The principal duties of this officer centered around the sale of school lands. His reports of these sales were made to the county court and recorded by the clerk of the county court in a well-bound book kept for that purpose.² The commissioner was ex-officio county superintendent of schools.³ For his ex-officio duties as superintendent of schools, the commissioner received additional compensation for the days actually engaged in the performance of these duties.⁴ The school commissioner was elected for a two-year term.⁵ In 1865 the office of county

1. L.1849, p. 154.

2. Ibid., p. 157-60; L.1851, p. 130.

3. L.1845, p. 54.

4. L.1849, p. 178; L.1867, p. 161.

5. L.1847, p. 120; L.1849, p. 154.

superintendent of schools was established as an independent office, and had delegated to it the authority formerly vested in the county school commissioner.¹

The superintendent of schools is a statutory office, now elective for a term of four years.² The superintendent's office serves as the central school administrative agency for the county. One or more of the several congressional townships comprise the several school districts. Within these administrative units are elected boards of trustees who have executive and financial responsibilities which come under the supervision of the county superintendent.³ The boards of trustees appoint their own treasurers who also act as clerks of the township (or school district) boards.⁴

The superintendent makes quarterly and annual reports to the county board and also reports to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Department of Public Health, the state fire marshal, and the state architect. His original duties are the following:

1. To sell township fund lands and issue certificates of purchase.
2. To examine the complete accounts of every township treasurer in his county and report irregularities to the township trustees.
3. To conduct a teachers' institute, hold quarterly examinations for teachers' certificates, and issue such.
4. To hold examinations for normal and university scholarships.
5. To visit the public schools in the county, observe methods of instruction, make recommendations to teachers, and advise school officers; to observe sanitary and safety conditions, and notify trustees and state authorities of unsatisfactory conditions; to inspect plans and specifications, and approve those meeting state regulations.⁵

A noteworthy undertaking of the superintendent of schools is the annual teachers' institute. Pioneer legislation of 1869 provided that the school directors were to allow school teachers to attend the teachers' in-

1. L.1865, p. 112; L.1871-72, p. 702; L.1889, p. 312; L.1909, p. 343.
 2. L.1871-72, p. 702; L.1909, p. 343; L.1915, p. 628; L.1923, p. 596.
 3. L.1847, p. 126; L.1909, p. 350; L.1929, p. 745.
 4. L.1927, p. 843; L.1929, p. 745.
 5. R.S.1845, p. 498, 499; L.1847, p. 122; L.1849, p. 156; L.1853, p. 246, 247; L.1855, p. 66, 67; L.1861, p. 190, 191; L.1865, p. 119, 120; L.1909, p. 347-50; L.1915, p. 636-38.

Superintendent of Schools -
Accounts of Funds; School
Districts

stitute in their county without the loss of time or pay.¹ Twenty years later, the superintendent of schools was required to hold the institute annually.² A fund was set up for this purpose which has continued to be made up of the fees received from applicants for teachers' certificates and from teachers' registrations. Money from the fund is paid out only on the order of the superintendent to defray the expenses of the annual institute. When the fund exceeds the annual cost of the institute, the excess may be paid out for special meetings of teachers.³

Accounts of School Funds
(See also entries 24-26)

299. INSTITUTE FUND RECORD, 1887--. 2 v. (A, 1 not lettered).
Missing: 1898-1933.

Register of receipts for institute tuition, certificate examination, and renewal fees, showing date, name of payer, amounts of receipts and expenditures, and balance in the hands of county treasurer. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 54 - 160 p. 11 x 13 x $\frac{1}{2}$ - 14 x 9 x 1. V. A, 1887-97, common vlt., bsmt.; 1 v. not lettered, 1934--, treas.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

School Districts

300. NON-HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT RECORD, 1917--. 1 v.

Proceedings of non-high school boards, showing date, school district number, names of board members, tax levies, and financial account of non-high school districts. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of school district. Hdw. 250 p. 16 x 10 x 2. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

301. CLAIMS FOR STATE AID, 1926--. 1 f.b.

Claims of school districts to superintendent of schools for state aid, showing date and amount of claim, name of district, total equalized assessed value of all taxable property, amount levied for educational and building purposes, tax rates, number of teachers employed, number of days school in session, number of pupils, and general apportionment. Arr. by date of claim. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

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1. L.1869, p. 394.
 2. L.1889, p. 312.
 3. L.1905, p. 385; L.1931, p. 876.

Teachers' Records

302. TEACHERS' PERMANENT RECORD, 1887--. 4 v. (A-D, 1887-1928);
2 f.b. (1929--).

Permanent record showing name, age, and address of teacher, institutions attended, professional credits, grade of certificate, how issued, years of teaching experience in Illinois and in other states, annual certificate registration and renewals, and pension record. Also contains Record of Teachers Employed, 1887-88, 1896--, entry 306. 1887-1927, arr. chron.; 1928--, arr. alph. by name of teacher. For index, 1887-1928, see entry 303; 1929--, no index. 1887-1928, hdw. under pr. hdgs.; 1929--, hdw. and typed on pr. fm. V. 400 p. 10 x 16 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$; f.b. 6 x 8 x 14. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

303. INDEX TO TEACHERS' PERMANENT RECORD, 1887-1928. 1 v. Discontinued.

Index to Teachers' Permanent Record, entry 302, showing name and address of teacher, and record book and page of entry. Arr. alph. by name of teacher. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 14 x 11 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

304. ILLINOIS TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL AND SERVICE RECORD (Pension Record), 1930--. 1 f.b.

Service record of teachers, showing date, name and address of teacher, kind and number of certificate, name of institution conferring degrees, name of school in which employed, salary, subjects taught, teaching experience, and contributions to pension fund. Arr. alph. by name of teacher. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 6 x 8 x 14. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

For prior records, see entry 302.

305. RECORD OF EXAMINATION (Register of Certificates), 1887-1914.
1 v. Subsequent to 1914 examinations made and record kept by Department of Public Instruction, Springfield.

Register of teachers' certificates, showing dates of examination and issue, grade and number of certificate, subjects of examination, grades received, and name of teacher. Arr. by date of issue. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 16 x 11 x 2. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

306. RECORD OF TEACHERS EMPLOYED, 1889-95. 1 v. 1887-88, 1896-- in Teachers' Permanent Record, entry 302.

Teachers' employment register showing date employed, name and address of teacher, school district, length of term, and amount of salary. Arr. chron. Indexed alph. by name of teacher. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 80 p. 14 x 8 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Common vlt., bsmt.

307. INSTITUTE RECORD (Minutes), 1904-6. 1 v.

Proceedings of teachers' institute, showing date, names of teachers in attendance, school district, resolutions adopted, and amount of fee payments. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 13 x 8 x 1. Common vlt., bsmt.

Reports
(See also entries 24-26)

308. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, 1896--.

34 v. Missing: 1904.

County superintendent's annual report to the state superintendent of public instruction, showing date of report, census of school townships, length of terms in various districts, number of pupils, promotions, tuition pupils, and administrative positions, amounts of teacher's salaries, pension fund, tax levies, and receipts and expenditure, value of school buildings and property, amount of district educational and building funds, and township distributive and loanable funds, account of funds due from closed banks, defaulting treasurers or bondsmen, and treasurer's distribution and bond, report of teachers' certificates, names of institute instructors and districts employing two or more teachers, number of libraries, and complete financial statistics. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 39 p. 14 x 10 x $\frac{1}{2}$. 1 v., 1896-1903, common vlt., bsmt.; 33 v., 1905--, off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

309. DISTRIBUTIVE FUNDS RECEIPTS, 1908--. 2 v.

Annual report of county superintendent of schools to township treasurers on distributive fund, showing date, amount received, and amount of distributive fund claimed by each school district. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 100 p., 10 x 16 x 1 - 18 x 21 x 1. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

310. RECORD OF SCHOOL VISITS, 1886-1900. 1 v. Discontinued.

Report of school visits made by the county superintendent of schools, showing names of school, teacher, and pupils, teachers' reports on attendance, number of sick children, cause of sickness, grades of pupils, and request for additional equipment. Arr. alph. by name of school. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 160 p. 7 x 5 x 1. Common vlt., bsmt.

311. TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT, 1928--. 160 v.

Township school trustees' annual reports to superintendent of schools, showing date, township, range, and school district numbers, amount of bonded indebtedness, distributive fund, tax levies, receipts and expenditures, and loanable funds, amount due from closed banks and defaulting treasurers or bondsmen, value and condition of school property, and list of notes and bonds in township loanable funds. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 15 p. 13 x 8 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

312. TRUANT OFFICER'S REPORT TO PARENT OR GUARDIAN, 1933--. 1 v.

Reports to parents or guardians of truant children, showing date, names of pupil, parent or guardian, and school, number of days absent, and signature of truant officer. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 p. 5 x 9 x 1. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

School Elections

313. TOWNSHIP POLL BOOK, TALLY LIST AND RETURNS AND COUNTY

SUPERINTENDENT LIST OF SCHOOL OFFICERS, 1929--. 1 f.b.

Poll books and tally lists of annual school elections, with list of school directors and other school officers elected by the county. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

School Treasurers' Bonds

314. (TOWNSHIP TREASURERS' BONDS), 1927--. 1 f.b.

Surety bonds of township school treasurers, showing names of principal and sureties, date, amount, and obligations of bond, date of approval by trustees, and date of filing. Arr. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 10 x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Off. of supt. of sch., 1st fl.

For prior records in bound form, see entry 126.

Plats

(See also entries 96, 98[iii], 139)

315. SCHOOL DISTRICT PLATS, 1886--. 1 v. (3).

Plats of school districts, showing date, township and range numbers, boundaries of school districts and quarter-section divisions, and certification by president and clerk of county board. Arr. chron. Indexed by twp. and range. Hand-drawn on printed sectional map paper. $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. to 1 mi. 320 p. 15 x 15 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

XV. SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS

From 1859 to 1868 the county court exercised jurisdiction over roads and bridges in Douglas County. The court was empowered to locate new roads, to alter or vacate old roads, to divide the county into road districts, and to appoint a supervisor in each district.¹

In 1868, when township organization was instituted in Douglas County,² the care and superintendence of roads became the responsibility of the townships. In 1849 legislation enabling the adoption of this form of county government had provided for the election in each township

1. L.1849, p. 65,149; Douglas County was created in 1859 (L.1859, p. 24, 28).

2. Township organization adopted in 1867, was not effective until 1868.

of a highway commissioner and as many overseers of highways as there were road districts in the county. The commissioners at their annual meeting determined necessary action for establishing new roads and repairing, altering, or vacating old roads; the overseers of highways were then required to carry out the commissioners' instructions.¹ This system of road control and maintenance obtained until 1913; in that year the office of superintendent of highways was first established.² The boards of highway commissioners which existed prior to that date have continued to function, but their powers are principally subordinated to those of the superintendent of highways.

The superintendent is appointed by the county board. The board submits a list of three to five candidates to the State Department of Public Works and Buildings, which department examines the candidates to determine the person best fitted for the office.³ The successful candidate holds office for six years and is remunerated in a sum fixed by the county board.

The powers and duties of the superintendent of highways come under the rules and regulations of the Department of Public Works and Buildings. However, the superintendent is subject, upon hearing, to removal by the county board. The superintendent exercises supervision over township, county, and state-aid roads, and bridges and culverts in his county, and is required to perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the chief highway engineer of the state.⁴

His principal duties are as follows:

1. To prepare plans, specifications, and estimates for all bridges to be built by the county.
2. To supervise the construction and maintenance of county roads and bridges, and state-aid roads.
3. To inspect the highways and bridges in each town or district of his county at least once a year.
4. To advise and direct the highway commissioners in each town or district as to the best methods of repair, maintenance, and improvement of highways and bridges.

1. L.1849, p. 212.
 2. L.1913, p. 524.
 3. L.1921, p. 781; L.1933, p. 961. From 1913 to 1917 the list was submitted to the State Highway Commission. In 1917 this state agency was abolished, and its rights, powers, and duties were vested in the Department of Public Works and Buildings, created in the same year (L.1913, p. 524; L.1917, p. 4,16,24).
 4. L.1921, p. 782; L.1933, p. 961.

5. To approve any purchase in excess of \$200 for materials, machinery, or apparatus to be used in road construction in any town or district.¹

He is required to keep the following records:

1. Records of contracts, purchases, and expenditures authorized by himself, the county board, or township commissioners.
2. Maps, plats, blueprints, specifications, etc., arising from his supervision of roads and bridges, or the planning of new construction.
3. Accounts of the funds handled by his office.
4. Reports from other officers or bodies touching upon the affairs of his office; copies of his own reports on the administration of his office; related papers.²

Commissioners' Records

316. HIGHWAY COMMISSIONERS' RECORD, 1894-1903. 1 v. Discontinued. Record of proceedings of the board of highway commissioners, showing tax review, treasurer's bonds submitted and approved, bills presented and allowed, and amount of orders. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 230 p. 13 x 9 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

317. COUNTY HIGHWAY BOND OR OBLIGATION REGISTER, 1933--. 1 v. County highway bond register showing name of fund, description of obligation, amount, date, and number of bond, to whom issued, annual or semi-annual sale and interest rate, date of retirement, and amounts of principal and interest payments. Arr. by date of bond. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 11 x 17 x 2. Off. of supt. of hwys., 1st fl.

1. L.1913, p. 523-26.
2. Ibid., p. 525.

Construction and Maintenance Records
(See also entries 1, 2)

General Accounts

318. (RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF COUNTY HIGHWAY FUND), 1933--. 1 v. 1914-32 in Superintendent of Highways' General Accounts Record, entry 319.

Cash book of receipts and disbursements, showing date, appropriation account number, amounts of levies, source of receipts, amount and number of warrant, dates of issue, and cancellation, to whom issued, and balance available. Arr. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 13 x 15 x 2. Off. of supt. of hwy., 1st fl.

319. SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS' GENERAL ACCOUNTS RECORD, 1914-32. 1 v. County superintendent of highways' general account book showing date, nature of account, location and description of road and bridge maintenance and construction, and total amount of each account. (Receipts and Disbursements of County Highway Fund), entry 318; County Contract Construction Ledger, entry 321; and County Superintendent of Highways - Claim Register, entry 327, subsequently kept separately. Arr. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. 300 p. 17 x 15 x 1½. Off. of supt. of hwy., 1st fl.

320. CONTRACTS, 1933--. 1 f.b. Original contracts for labor and material to be used in highway and bridge construction and repairs, showing date, name of contractor, amount of bid, and specifications for labor and material. Arr. by road and section nos. No index. Typed. 11 x 12 x 24. Off. of supt. of hwy., 1st fl.

321. COUNTY CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION LEDGER, 1933--. 1 v. 1914-32 in Superintendent of Highways' General Accounts Record, entry 319. Ledger of construction contracts, showing cost summary, additions, deductions, net contract price, amount of appropriation, names and addresses of contractor and bonding company, dates of award and completion, location and description of work, materials to be used, fund distribution, and State of Illinois refunds. Arr. by date of award. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 11 x 15 x 2. Off. of supt. of hwy., 1st fl.

Labor

322. HIGHWAY PAYROLL, 1935--. 1 v. Register of warrants paid to highway laborers, showing date, worker's name and address, actual time of duty, amount of earnings, and date of payment. Arr. by date of payments. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 12 x 4 x 2. Co. clk.'s vlt., 2nd fl.

Surveys and Field Notes

323. (PLANS), 1914--. 240 rolls. Plans of various surveys of roads, streets, bridges, and drainage districts, showing date, elevations, grades, construction details, and size of tile or ditch. Arr. chron. No index. Blueprint. 1 in. to 1 ft. - 1 in. to 1 mi. 5 x 26 - 5 x 36. Off. of supt. of hwy., 1st fl.

Superintendent of Highways -
Allotments and Claims;
Correspondence

(324-330)

324. FIELD BOOKS, 1914--. 30 v.

Highway engineer's field notes of various construction projects, showing date, location of work, grades and elevations, and size and type of material used in construction. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 200 p. 5 x 7 x 1. Off. of supt. of hwy., 1st fl.

Allotments and Claims
(See also entries 4-8, 293)

325. COUNTY MOTOR FUEL TAX ALLOTMENT RECORD, 1933--. 1 v.

Estimates of cost of work and material on allotted state-aid routes, showing amounts and dates of original and subsequent revised estimates, amount requested by county board, receipt and claim numbers, amount received, and balance available. Arr. by date of estimate. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 300 p. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 x 2. Off. of supt. of hwy., 1st fl.

326. MOTOR FUEL TAX CLAIMS, 1933--. 1 f.d.

Claims for labor and material chargeable to motor fuel tax fund, showing date and amount of claim, and name of claimant. Arr. alph. by name of claimant. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 11 x 12 x 24. Off. of supt. of hwy., 1st fl.

327. COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS - CLAIM REGISTER, 1933--. 1 v.
1914-32 in Superintendent of Highways General Accounts Record,
entry 319.

Register of claims of firms and individuals for material or service, showing date and number of claim, purchase order or requisition number, name and address of claimant, article or service furnished, route, construction and section and patrol numbers, maintenance section, total claims, and functional distribution. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 200 p. 11 x 17 x 2. Off. of supt. of hwy., 1st fl.

Correspondence

328. (CORRESPONDENCE WITH STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT), 1914--. 7 f.d.
Superintendent's correspondence with state highway department. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 12 x 24. Off. of supt. of hwy., 1st fl.

329. (INTERCOUNTY CORRESPONDENCE), 1914--. 2 f.d.

Superintendent's correspondence relative to various roads and bridges on the county lines between Douglas and adjoining counties. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 12 x 24. Off. of supt. of hwy., 1st fl.

330. (CORRESPONDENCE WITH TOWNSHIPS), 1914--. 9 f.d.

Superintendent's correspondence with townships relative to highway department business. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 12 x 24. Off. of supt. of hwy., 1st fl.

XVI. SURVEYOR

The surveyor of Douglas County was an elected officer of the county from 1859 to 1936.¹ Since September, 1936 he has been an appointee of the county board.² His appointment is for a four-year term. He takes and subscribes to an oath which is filed in the county clerk's office.

The surveyor is required by law to make all surveys within the bounds of his county that he may be called upon to make by the county board or interested persons. Such surveys include surveys of lands of persons requesting the same, of additions or subdivisions, and marking of county lines. Few changes have been made in the original statutory requirements for the duties of this office. The surveyor may appoint one or more deputies. Any individual requesting a survey must employ his own chainmen subject to the approval of the surveyor.

The surveyor is required by law to keep a well-bound book in which to record all surveys made by him, giving such information as the names of the persons whose land is surveyed and descriptive data of the survey. This record is required to be kept by the surveyor in the recorder's office. The surveyor also preserves his field notes and retains copies of plats.³

Maps, Plats, and Plans
(See also entries 136-140)

331. SURVEYOR'S RECORD, 1859--. 5 v.

Maps and plats of county, town, and city additions, subdivisions, highways, and drains, showing date of survey, location of lots, blocks, sections, townships, and ranges, and surveyor's certificates of lines run and markers established. Arr. by lot, block, sec., twp., and range. No index. Hdw. and hand-drawn. 500 p. 18 x 12 x 3. Co. surv.'s off., 1st fl.

332. (DRAINAGE DISTRICT PLATS), 1910--. 40 f.b. (40 plats).

Plats of drainage districts in Douglas County, showing elevations, grades, drainage ditch dimensions, material specifications, date of survey, and district number. Arr. by date of survey. No index. Surveyor, Troy Timm. Blueprint and hand-drawn. 10 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13. Co. surv.'s off., 1st fl.

1. R.S.1845, p. 523; R.S.1874, p. 456, 1050; L.1903, p. 349.

2. L.1933, p. 1104. Effective in 1936.

3. R.S.1845, p. 524; R.S.1874, p. 1050; L.1885, p. 248; L.1915, p. 575; L.1933, p. 1104.

333. (DESIGN DATA), 1930--. 2 f.d.

Preliminary sketches and specifications of changes in certain city, township, and county areas, tentatively under consideration of board of supervisors and submitted for approval, showing date, present outlines, surface details, and proposed changes. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw., hand-drawn, and typed. 11 x 12 x 24. Co. surv.'s off., 1st fl.

Correspondence

334. (SURVEYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE), 1930--. 1 f.d.

Letters to county surveyor from various individuals and officials relative to surveys made or to be made. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. and typed. 11 x 12 x 24. Co. surv.'s off., 1st fl.

XVII. DRAINAGE COMMISSIONERS

For the purpose of aiding in public welfare and health, the constitution has delegated to the General Assembly broad power to provide laws in regard to drainage.¹ By statutory provision these activities are exercised by drainage commissioners in districts of Douglas County. The corporate authorities of the drainage districts have power to acquire rights of way, issue bonds, construct and maintain drains, ditches, and levees for agricultural, sanitary or mining purposes, and assess the benefited property.²

Drainage districts have been organized by land owners upon petition to the county court. When the court has found in favor of the petitioners, it has then entered an order to that effect and appointed three commissioners to examine and survey the proposed lands. The commissioners, when they had completed their assignment, made a final report to the court with recommendations and the copies of surveys, maps, plats, and estimates.³ The districts are of three kinds: regular, which is composed of property lying in a single town; union, where the lands organized lie in two towns; and special, with three or more towns involved.⁴

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1. Constitution of 1870, Art. IV, sec. 31.
 2. First amendment to the constitution, ratified November 29, 1878, incorporated in the Constitution of 1870, Art. IV, sec. 31; L.1879, p. 120, 124-28.
 3. L.1871-72, p. 356-58; R.S.1874, p. 429; L.1875, p. 76,77; L.1879, p. 120,124,155; L.1885, p. 78,93,95,110-15; L.1907, p. 275; L.1913, p. 261.
 4. L.1879, p. 155; L.1885, p. 93,94,113. River districts, though not in this category, may be organized similarly and with like powers (L.1885, p. 106).

After the report on a proposed district has been made, the court completes the organization of the district.¹ The corporate powers of regular and union districts are vested in three commissioners appointed by town clerks. The corporate authority in special drainage districts is vested in three elected commissioners of the district.² In regular districts the commissioners appoint one of their number to act as secretary. The town clerk in union districts acts as the clerk of the district.³ The county clerk and county treasurer in cases of the special drainage districts are, respectively, ex-officio clerk⁴ and treasurer⁵ of each district. Union and special drainage districts are maintained in Douglas County.

The following records belong to the drainage commissioners:

1. Records of bonds issued.
2. Assessment books.
3. Petitions of owners of land to stay assessments, orders of commissioners thereupon, and other proceedings.
4. State auditor's certificates of interest due on bonds.
5. Tax lists showing pro-rata share of levy for bond interest (union and special districts only).
6. Copies of reports to county court on conditions of district and estimated expenditures; and to county treasurer on delinquent lands; maps and plats, surveys and estimates; office transactions.⁶

The first two records are required to be kept in separate books, the next three generally are known as the "Drainage Record," and the remaining records are kept desultorily. In Douglas County these records are all kept by the county clerk.

For records of the drainage commissioners, see entries 34-36.

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1. See footnote 3, p. 218.
 2. L.1879, p. 156; L.1885, p. 93,95,113.
 3. L.1915, p. 390. The town clerk shall be clerk of the union drainage district, when the major portion lies in his town.
 4. L.1885, p. 95; L.1915, p. 390; L.1919, p. 468.
 5. L.1885, p. 78,104.
 6. L.1879, p. 120-34; L.1885, p. 78-104.

XVIII. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

Matters relating to public assistance and welfare in the county are handled by the department of public welfare, which was established in 1937 as successor to the county commission of public welfare.¹ This department consists of the superintendent of public welfare and a staff selected by him in accordance with, and subject to, the approval of the State Department of Public Welfare.

The county board submits to the state department a list of five residents as candidates for the office of superintendent. An eligible list of these candidates is prepared by the state department by competitive examination and certified to the county board. The board in turn makes an order appointing one of the eligibles as superintendent of public welfare.²

The superintendent is charged with all the executive and administrative duties and responsibilities of the department of public welfare. He is subject to the rules and regulations of, and removal by, the state agency.³

This officer has power and it is his duty to:

1. Have charge and develop plans for the administration of old age assistance.
2. Investigate and study problems of assistance, correction, and general welfare within his county.
3. Cooperate with the State Department of Public Welfare in the operation of welfare plans and policies in his county.
4. Maintain such records and file such reports with the State Department of Public Welfare as that department may require.
5. Serve as agent and executive officer of the State Department of Public Welfare in the administration of all forms of public assistance administered by that department.⁴

1. L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 70-73; L.1937, p. 451.

2. L.1937, p. 451,452.

3. Ibid., p. 452.

4. L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 72; L.1937, p. 452.

All the records of the county department are subject to the inspection and supervision of the agents of the central authority.

The department of public welfare administers old age assistance and is subject to the rules and regulations of the state department.¹ Upon receipt of an application the department makes an investigation of the case. In the course of the investigation the department is allowed to hold hearings and compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of papers and books.²

Old age assistance records and accounts are kept as prescribed by the state department. All applications and records in these matters are considered public records.³

335. OLD AGE ASSISTANCE, 1936--. 4 f.d.

Duplicate applications for old age assistance, with affidavits, showing date, case number, applicant's name, age, and residence, marital status, property insurance, allowances, investigator's report and recommendations, and relation as to acceptance or rejection. Arr. by case no. For index, see entry 336. Hdw. on pr. fm. 11 x 12 x 24. Old age assistance off., 1st fl.

336. (OLD AGE ASSISTANCE INDEX), 1936--. 1 f.b.

Card index to Old Age Assistance, entry 335, showing name and address of applicant, application number, date referred to district or town worker, and date of approval, rejection, or withdrawal. Arr. alph. by name of applicant. Typed. 3 x 5 x 12. Old age assistance off., 1st fl.

337. (CASE HISTORY CARD), 1936--. 1 f.b.

Card record of applicants for old age assistance, showing name, address, sex, age, and marital status of applicant, whether application is pending, new, formerly denied, reopened, granted, or withdrawn, notation of investigator's report and recommendations, and award. Arr. alph. by name of applicant. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 3 x 5 x 12. Old age assistance off., 1st fl.

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1. L.1935, p. 259,260; L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 54,55; L.1937, p. 265.
 2. L.1935-36, First Sp. Sess., p. 57-59; L.1937, p. 267,268.
 3. L.1937, p. 268,269.

XIX. COUNTY HOME

One phase of public assistance is administered by the county home. All county poorhouses, poor farms, and institutions for the support and care of indigents in Illinois are known as county homes.¹ County poorhouses and farms have existed in this state under statutory provisions for nearly a century. The legislation creating these county establishments for the indigent has changed little since the original enactments. The county boards of the various counties may establish a county home, and are granted the following powers:

1. To acquire by purchase, grant, gift, or devise, a suitable tract or tracts upon which to erect and maintain a county poorhouse and other necessary buildings, and for the establishment and maintenance of a farm for the employment of the poor.
2. To receive gifts and bequests to aid in the erection and maintenance of the poorhouse, or in the care of the indigents.
3. To make rules and regulations for the same.
4. To appoint a keeper of the poorhouse and all necessary agents and servants for the management and control of the poorhouse and farm, and to prescribe their compensation and duties.
5. To appoint a county physician and prescribe his compensation and duties.
6. To appoint an agent to have general supervision and charge of all matters in relation to the care and support of the poor, and to prescribe his compensation and duties.
7. To make the necessary appropriations for the erection and maintenance of the county home.²

Records of the county home are prepared and kept by the keeper (superintendent) of the home. He is required to keep an account showing the name of each person admitted to the county poorhouse, the time of his admission and discharge, the place of his birth, and the cause of his dependency. He is also required, at the same time each year, to file with the county clerk of his county a copy of this record together with a statement showing the average number of persons kept in the poorhouse each month during the year.³

1. L.1919, p. 699; L.1935, p. 1058.
 2. L.1839, p. 139; R.S.1845, p. 404, 405; L.1861, p. 180; R.S.1874, p. 757; L.1917, p. 638; L.1919, p. 698; L.1935, p. 1057, 1058.
 3. R.S.1874, p. 758.

338. ALMSHOUSE REGISTER, 1872--. 1 v.

Register of inmates of county almshouse, showing inmate's number, name, sex, age, physical condition, and personal statistics, date and authority of admission, cause of pauperism, and dates of discharge or death. Arr. by date of admission. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 500 p. 16 x 13 x 3. Off. of supt. of co. farm, 1st fl.

XX. COUNTY HOSPITAL

In 1911 the powers of the county were extended to allow for the maintenance of a county hospital.¹ The act empowered each county to provide for a building and to maintain a hospital to care for such sick persons as may, by law, be charges upon the county. In 1934 the county board of Douglas County purchased a private hospital for that purpose.² There are no statutory provisions for the management of the institution or for the keeping of records, the details of such matters being left to the county board by the general terms of the original law.

339. PATIENTS' REGISTRY, 1934--. 4 f.b.

Hospital register showing patient's name and room number, home address, name and address of relative, date of admission, whether county or pay patient, date and amount of bill, amount of payment, and balance due. Arr. alph. by name of patient. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 4 x 6 x 13. Off. of co. hospital, 1st fl.

340. PATIENTS' HISTORY, PHYSICIANS' ORDERS, BEDSIDE NOTES AND GRAPHIC CHART, 1934--. 4 f.d.

Case history register showing patient's name, age, and weight, room number, names of doctor and nurse, date of entry, family history, previous illness or operation, childhood diseases, and present illness and complications; also physicians' orders, bedside notes, and graphic chart. Arr. alph. by name of patient. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 11 x 12 x 24. Off. of co. hospital, 1st fl.

1. L.1911, p. 246.

2. Supervisors' Record, v. G, p. 372,428,441.

341. STATEMENT, 1934--. 2 f.b.

Statements for room care and medicine furnished patients, showing name of patient, date and amount of bill, amount of payment, and balance due. Arr. alph. by name of patient. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 5 x 8 x 13. Off. of co. hospital, 1st fl.

342. CHARGE SLIP, 1934--. 2 f.b.

Charge slips showing date, name and address of patient, room or ward number, name and address of party charged, and name of physician. Arr. alph. by name of party charged. No index. Hdw. under pr. hdgs. 4 x 7 x 13. Off. of co. hospital, 1st fl.

343. (CASH BOOK), 1934--. 1 v.

Cash book of daily receipts from all sources, showing name of payee and date and amount of payment. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. 200 p. 13 x 9 x 1. Off. of co. hospital, 1st fl.

XXI. COUNTY NURSE

The county board is empowered to employ nurses for such public health nursing duties as it may deem necessary.¹ All nurses to be employed as public health nurses, in addition to being registered, must be certified by the Department of Registration and Education as qualified to perform the duties of public health nursing.² The Department of Registration and Education conducts examinations to determine the fitness of applicants, and may revoke any certificate for cause as set forth in the act.³ Review of any order of revocation may be made by the circuit court, and appeals from orders or judgments of the circuit court in such review may be taken to the Supreme Court.

The county board prescribes the duties to be performed by the county nurse, and makes appropriations for the compensation and necessary expenses of such nurses.⁴ In Douglas County the county nurse visits child and adult patients throughout the county. Advice and assistance is received by the county nurse from the State Department of Public Health, and written reports, with the consent of the county board, are made to that department.⁵

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1. L.1931, p. 732.
 2. L.1937, p. 998.
 3. Ibid., p. 1000,1001.
 4. L.1931, p. 732.
 5. Ibid., p. 733.

344. COUNTY NURSING SERVICE, 1923--. 5 f.b.

Report of county nurse of pupils under observation, showing names of pupil and parents, place of birth, color or race, date and kind of sickness, examination and tests given for diphtheria, home background, number of adults and children in family, general physical condition of child, results accomplished, and report of teachers on pupil's accomplishment. Arr. alph. by name of pupil. No index. Hdw. 5 x 8 x 13. Co. nurse's off., 1st fl.

345. (TUBERCULOSIS CASES, ACTIVE), 1923--. 5 f.d.

Chronological history of each active tuberculosis case in county, showing date, family name, doctor's certificate of patient's condition, and all correspondence bearing on the case. Arr. alph. by family name. No index. Hdw. 11 x 12 x 24. Co. nurse's off., 1st fl.

346. (TUBERCULOSIS CASES, INACTIVE), 1923--. 9 f.d.

Chronological history of each inactive tuberculosis case disposed of by death or removal of patient, showing dates, family name, doctor's certificate relative to patient, all correspondence bearing on the case and date of death or removal of patient. Arr. alph. by family name. No index. Hdw. 11 x 12 x 13. Co. nurse's off., 1st fl.

XXII. TUBERCULOSIS SANITARIUM BOARD

In 1909 the powers of the county were extended to permit the establishment of a sanitarium for the care and treatment of county residents suffering from tuberculosis.¹ This provision was greatly amplified in an act of 1915 which described in detail the conditions necessary to the establishment of such an institution and the manner in which it was to be supported, managed, and controlled.²

The act provided that whenever one hundred legal voters in a county should petition the county board to levy a tax for the establishment and maintenance of a tuberculosis sanitarium, the board was required to submit the question to the voters of the county at the next regular general election. A favorable majority of all votes cast upon the proposition was necessary for adoption.³ In the original legislation of 1915 the amount of the tax levy was limited to not more than three mills on the dollar annually on all taxable property in the county.⁴ This limit was lowered in 1923 to two mills,⁵ and further reduced in 1929 to one and

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1. L.1909, p. 162.
 2. L.1915, p. 346-49.
 3. Ibid., p. 346, 347.
 4. Ibid., p. 346.
 5. L.1923, p. 302.

Tuberculosis Sanitarium
Board

one-half mills,¹ the present statutory requirement. The money thus received was to be set apart in a special Tuberculosis Sanitarium Fund.²

The management of the sanitarium fund was vested in a board of three directors appointed by the president or chairman of the county board with the approval of that body. The directors were to serve for three years.³ Vacancies on the board were to be filled in the manner in which the original appointments were made. Immediately after their appointment, the directors were required to meet and elect from their number a president, secretary, and such other officers as they might deem necessary.⁴ The Douglas County electorato voted on March 5, 1916⁵ for the levying of a tax to establish a fund; and on the same day the first board of directors was appointed.⁶

Today the powers and duties of the board of directors are essentially the same as in 1915. The directors have been given broad powers in the control and management of any sanitarium, all dispensaries, or auxiliary institutions and activities established or carried on under the provisions of the act of 1915 and subsequent legislation.⁷ They are granted exclusive control of the expenditure of all moneys collected to the credit of the fund and may receive, in the name of the county, contributions or donations to the sanitarium of money or property. Persons desiring to make a donation, bequest, or devise of any money, personal property, or real estate may vest the title to such property in the board of directors who, upon acceptance, hold and control it and act as special trustees. Otherwise, all moneys received for the use of the sanitarium are deposited in the county treasury within a month after their receipt, to be drawn upon only by the proper officers upon presentation of properly authenticated vouchers of the board of directors. When such a deposit is made the board is required to secure a receipt from the treasurer.⁸

1. L.1929, p. 304.

2. L.1915, p. 346; L.1923, p. 302; L.1929, p. 304,305.

3. The first three directors, however, were required to serve for irregular terms of one, two, and three years in order to permit the appointment of one new director annually. The particular term each director was to serve was decided by lot (L.1915, p. 347).

4. L.1915, p. 347.

5. Supervisors' Record, v. F, p. 21.

6. Ibid.

7. L.1915, p. 346-49; L.1923, p. 302,303; L.1929, p. 304,305, Cf. R.S.1937, p. 956-59.

8. L.1915, p. 347-49.

Tuberculosis Sanitarium
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Since 1923, to insure greater working efficiency, counties maintaining tuberculosis sanitariums have been permitted to convey property acquired for such purposes, to any adjacent county or counties upon such terms and conditions as the respective county boards agree on by a majority vote of all members of each board. In the same year it was also provided that counties without public tuberculosis facilities might use funds secured for that purpose to give patients sanitarium care in private or public sanitariums of the state.¹ The Tuberculosis Sanitarium Fund of Douglas County is distributed under this latter provision, as no county sanitarium is maintained.

The directors are required to return to the county board monthly a list of the names of all persons making contributions and donations, the amount and nature of the property so received, and the date of its receipt. On or before the second Monday in June in each year, the directors make an annual report to the county board, stating the conditions of their trust on the first day of June, the various sums of money received from all sources and how and for what purpose expended, the number of patients, and other pertinent statistics, information, and suggestions.²

Records of tubercular cases in Douglas County are kept by the county nurse. See entries 345, 346.

1. L.1923, p. 303.

2. L.1915, p. 348, 349.

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